

COLOR PINUP:
RANDY SAVAGE
AND ELIZABETH

PRESS CONFERENCE: MAGNUM T.A.

\$2.25 / \$2.75 Canada

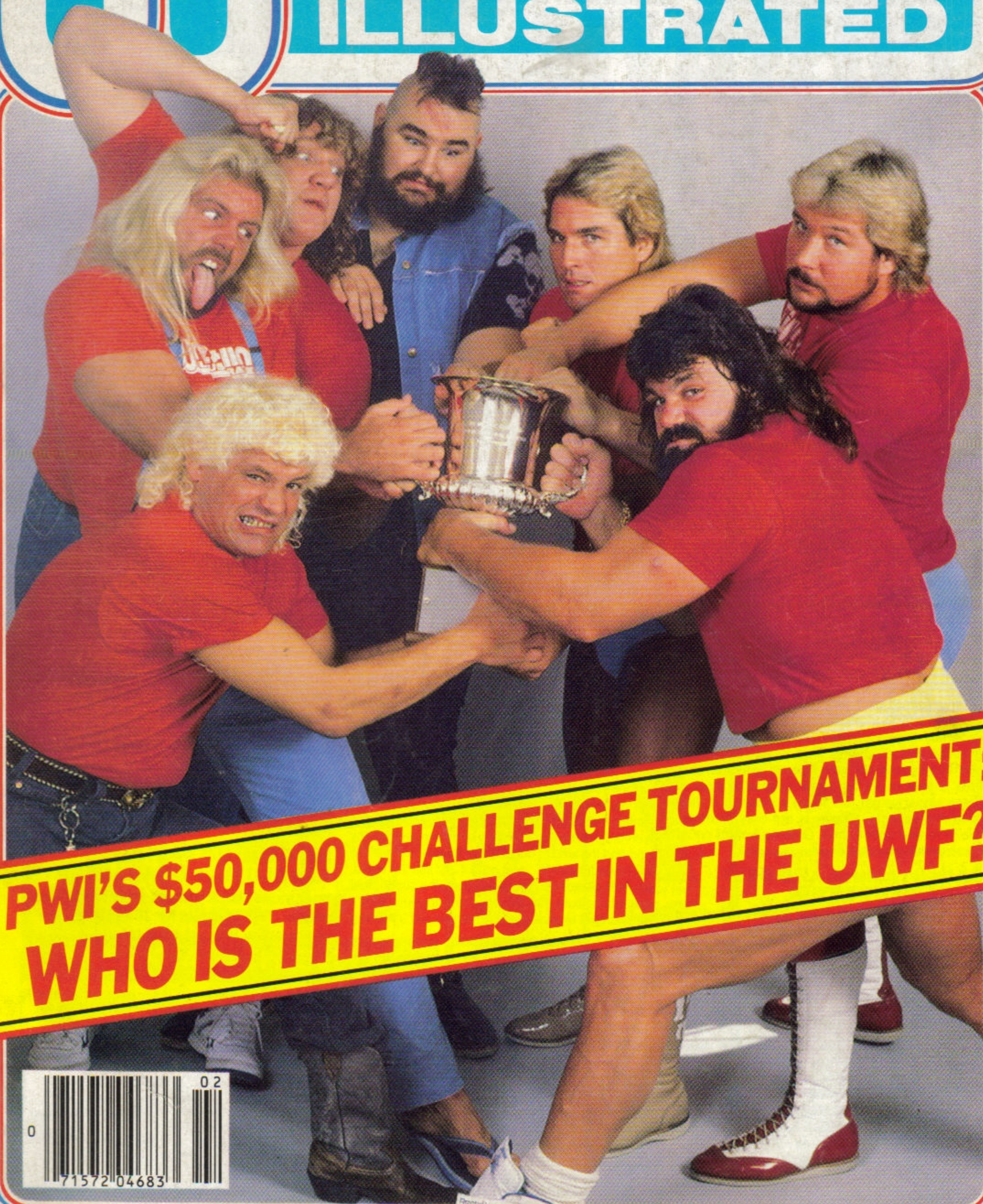
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DIST.

HOGAN vs. ORNDORFF: WRESTLING'S HOTTEST FEUD

Feb. 1987 04683



PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED



**PWI'S \$50,000 CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT:
WHO IS THE BEST IN THE UWF?**



RINGSIDE

With Bill Apter

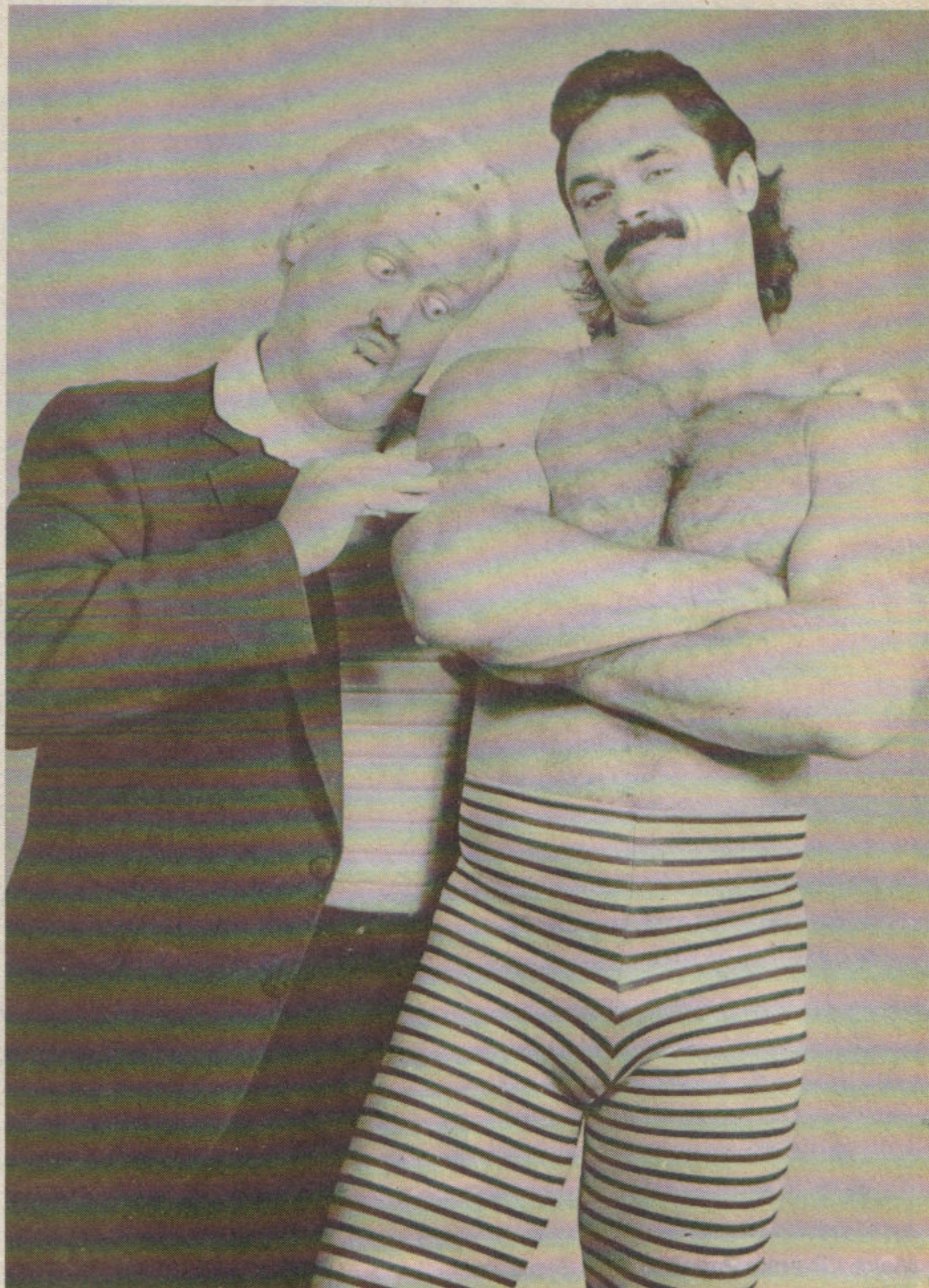
SPECULATION THAT FORMER World Class champion **Rick Rude** will get a shot at NWA World champion **Ric Flair** has all but ceased. Upon arriving in the NWA, Rude immediately aligned himself with manager **Paul Jones**, a move that virtually eliminates any chance he has of getting a shot at Flair.

Jones has always used his wrestlers to settle personal vendettas, and has never sent one of his men up against Flair. "I can see Rude wrestling **Jimmy Valiant** or **Magnum T.A.**, and I know that Jones is planning to team him up with **Manny Fernandez** to take on [NWA World tag team champions] **The Rock 'n' Roll Express**," said my source. "It's a shame, because Rude would have a solid shot against Flair. But it just isn't going to happen."

This brings up the possibility of early difficulties between Rude and Jones. In the January 1987 issue of **Inside Wrestling** ("Rick Rude's Warning To Ric Flair: 'I'm Coming To Get You'"), Rude vowed to go after, and win, Flair's title. He noted that he had found weaknesses in Flair's style, and boasted that only he had the ability to defeat the champion.

Rude, however, is young and impressionable. In the World Class area, he suffered under the gross mismanagement of former manager **Percy Pringle** and ultimately lost his title because of Pringle's interference. Many people felt that he left Texas to rid himself of Pringle, but he might have fallen into another trap. Jones, naturally, disagrees.

"Nonsense," he said. "Rude will have every opportunity to go far in the NWA, and I predict that he will win the NWA World championship."



Rick Rude, shown here with his former manager Percy Pringle, is now managed by Paul Jones, who has a penchant for using his charges to settle personal vendettas. This could hurt Rude's chances for a shot at Ric Flair and the NWA World championship.

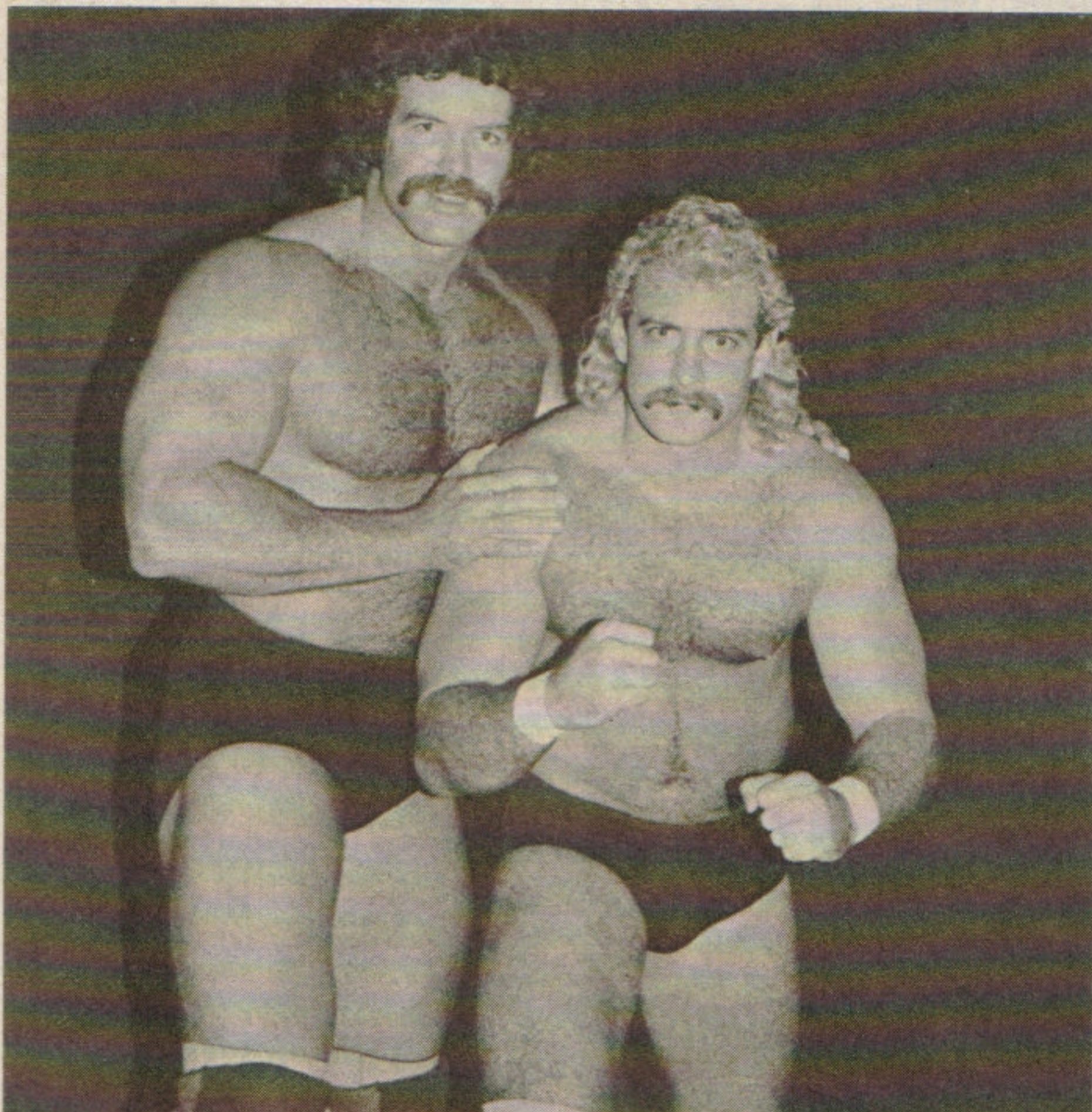
First though, we have this problem of a few bald-headed geeks to take care of and then maybe we'll do the world a favor and get rid of The Rock 'n' Roll Express, although I hear that **Ole Anderson** has done part of that for us."

For more news on Anderson's attack on rock 'n' roller **Robert Gibson**, see "Wrestling Enquirer" on page 68.

Wrestling TNT, the WWF's weekly **Tonight Show**-type talk and variety
(Continued on page 56)

DRESSING CONFIDENTIAL ROOM

By Stu Saks



SCOTT HALL HAS determination, a desire to learn and improve, and size . . . oh, does he have size! In the super-awesome elite of pro wrestling, Hall, The Road Warriors, Lex Luger, Hulk Hogan and Nikita Koloff are charter members.

With all that going for him, what more does Scott Hall need? Let's ask an old friend of his, Magnum

Scott Hall and Magnum T.A. were good friends when both wrestled in the NWA, but Magnum is apparently angered that Hall has adopted the Magnum moniker for himself. What's in a name? Managing Editor Stu Saks tries to answer that question.

T.A., about that. "I'd rather not talk about it," Magnum says.

Well, then allow me. Scott Hall, formerly known as "Big" Scott Hall, now goes under the name "Magnum" Scott Hall. He has assumed the cognomen of a man

who has spent three years making it into one of the largest draws in the sport.

What's in a name, you ask? Well, in the world of entertainment (and sport, whether it be baseball, football, boxing, or wrestling, certainly falls under the category of entertainment), a name is crucial. It takes time to build market value in a name. In Magnum's case, he had to sweat and bleed to make the name Magnum synonymous with wrestling excellence. And for someone to come along and rip it off is wrong. Just plain wrong.

I feel sorry for Magnum T.A., but I could feel sorrier. Remember, Magnum's real name is Terry Allen. He took his nickname from a popular TV show starring the popular Tom Selleck, *Magnum P.I.* Magnum got away with it, and so will Hall. But that is not always the case when names are pilfered.

There is a wrestler by the name of Hulk Hogan, whom I'm sure many of you have heard of. Hulk began his career as Terry "The Hulk" Boulder, became Sterling Golden, and finally became Hulk Hogan in 1979. Sometime after Hogan won the WWF title and the WWF underwent its massive expansion program, the creators of The Incredible Hulk, Marvel Com-

(Continued on page 52)

WFOCUS

With CRAIG PETERS

TAG TEAM MANIA!

If anybody is wondering where tomorrow's tag teams are coming from, I suggest that they look to the Mid-Southern area. Over the course of 1986, the folks down Memphis way have played host to plenty of new teams. And I mean plenty:

Fire and Flame, Akio Sato and Tarzan Gotoh, The Nightmares, Memphis Vice, The M.O.D. Squad, Rough and Ready, Giant Hillbilly and Cousin Junior, The Bruise Brothers, The Hunters, The Beach Boys, and The Blade Runners ... along with such established teams as The Fabulous Ones, The Fantastics, and The Shepherders ... along with such short-lived combination as when two singles wrestlers pair up for a match or a tournament.

"The fans down here just can't seem to get enough of tag team wrestling," noted television commentator Lance Russell. "There's something about tag teams that injects a shot of excitement into a match. And believe me, I've probably seen more colorful tag teams down here in the past year than anybody's ever seen anywhere!"

I'll go along with that—a quick glance at the above list will indicate that maybe Mid-Southern



Stan Lane & Steve Keim—The Fabulous Ones

has taken the mantle away from the UWF as being the "tag team mecca" of wrestling.

Speaking of tag teams, I'd like to correct an error from last month's column. In it, I said that the World Class tag team belts were vacated in September

1985. They were, but they were filled shortly after that when Chris Adams and Gino Hernandez won the belts on November 28. They were vacated about a month later when Adams and Hernandez split up just weeks before Hernandez's death.

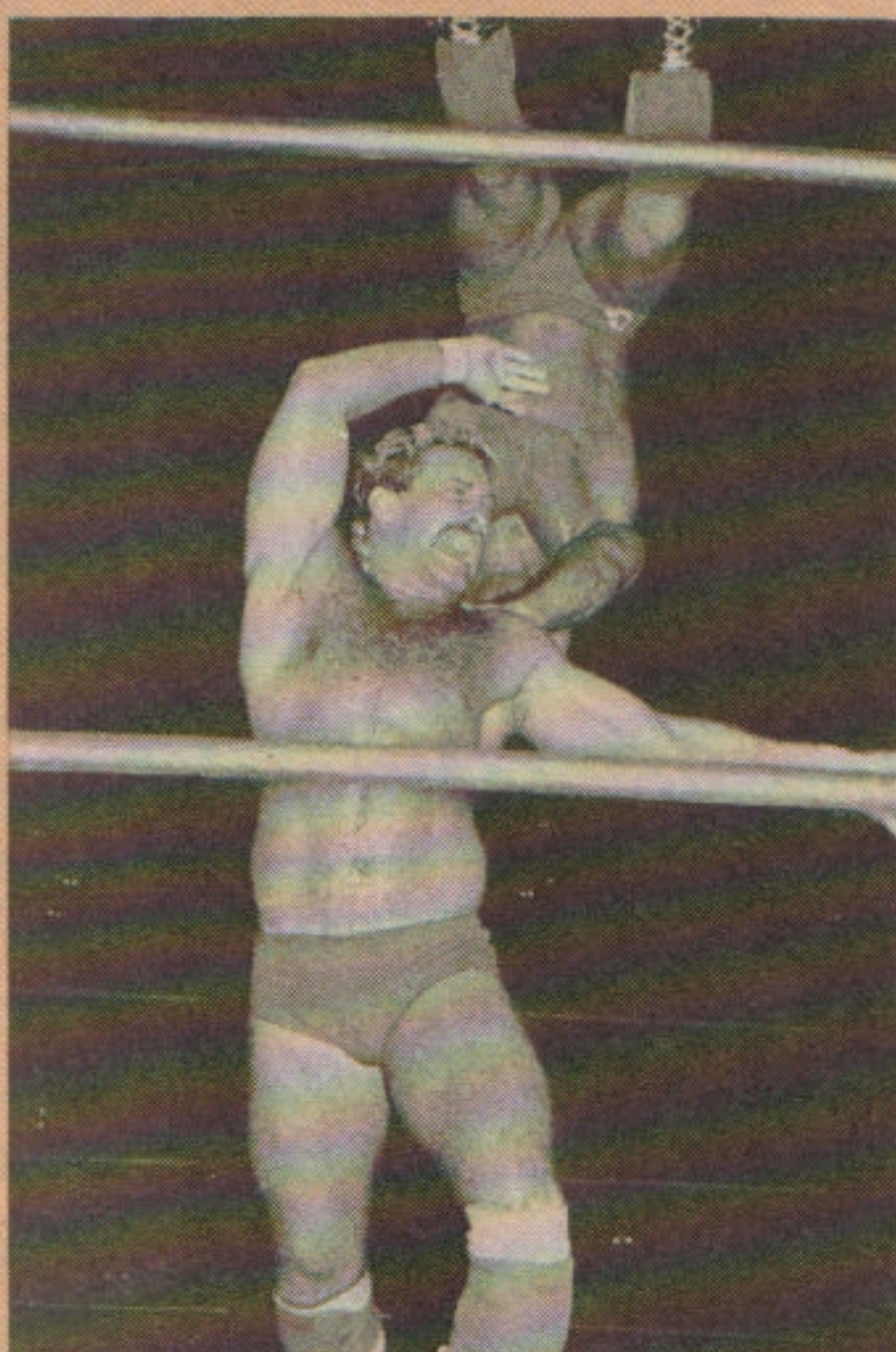
Every issue, reporters from PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED will participate in an incisive press conference with a top wrestling star. The questions will be demanding. And the answers will reveal the innermost thoughts of the giants of the sport.

**PRESS
CONFERENCE
MAGNUM
T.A.**

MAGNUM T.A. IS on the comeback trail, which seems kind of strange for a man who never really left in the first place. But ever since June, things have not gone well for the man wrestling fans used to call Terry Allen.

First, Magnum got into a tussle with Nikita and Ivan Koloff during a press conference that was to announce a Nikita-T.A. television bout for T.A.'s U.S. title. When NWA President Bob Geigel reprimanded Magnum for his actions, Magnum hit Geigel and was stripped of the belt. A best-of-seven series between Nikita and Magnum for the title was announced, and by the middle of August the U.S. championship was in the hands of a Russian.

Devastated, embarrassed, and still enraged at the series of events that cost him the title, T.A. vowed to fight back. But in the matches that followed his decisive series loss in Charlotte, North Carolina, Magnum was slow, tentative, and lacked the drive that has forever been his trade-



mark. He was down. And although he won't admit it, he still is.

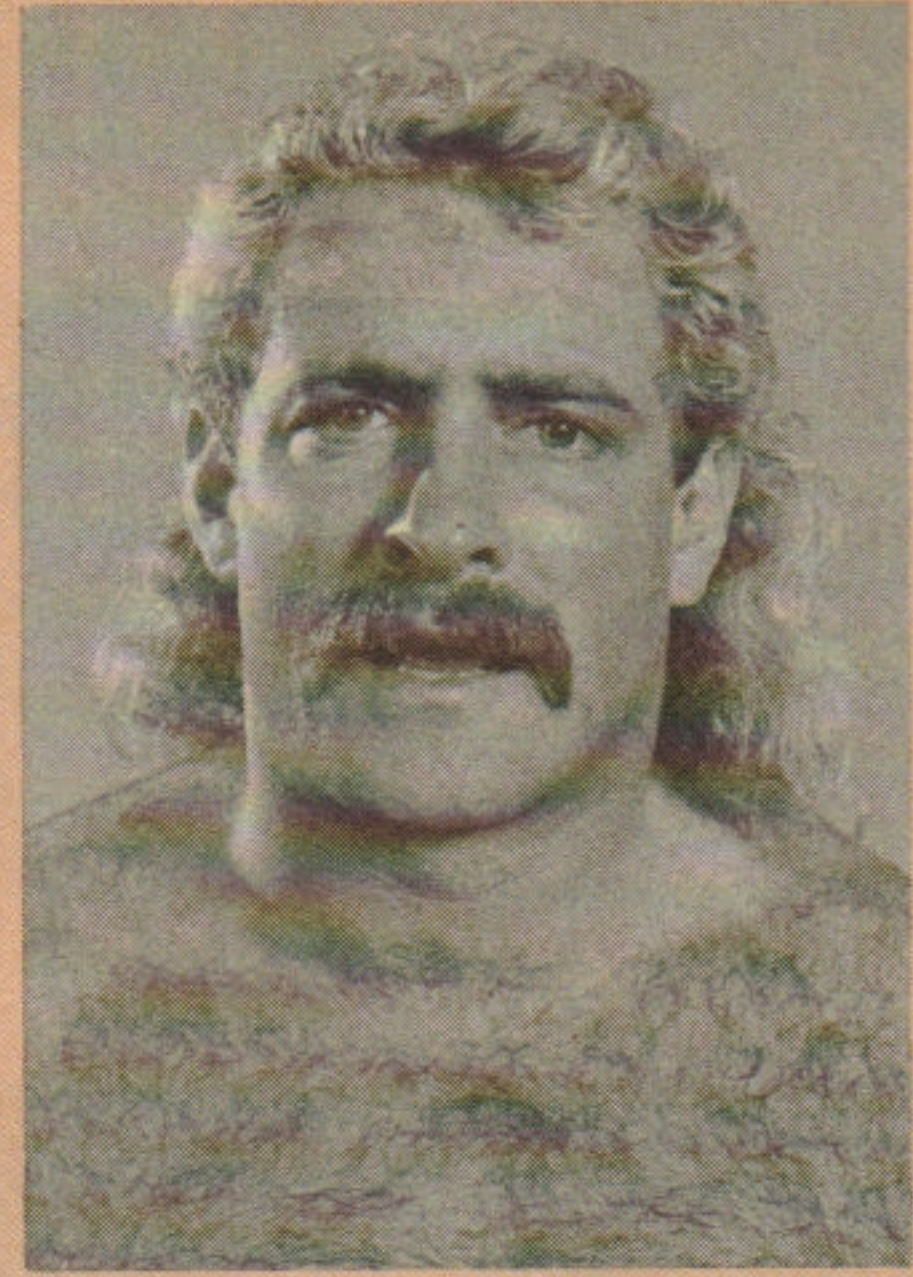
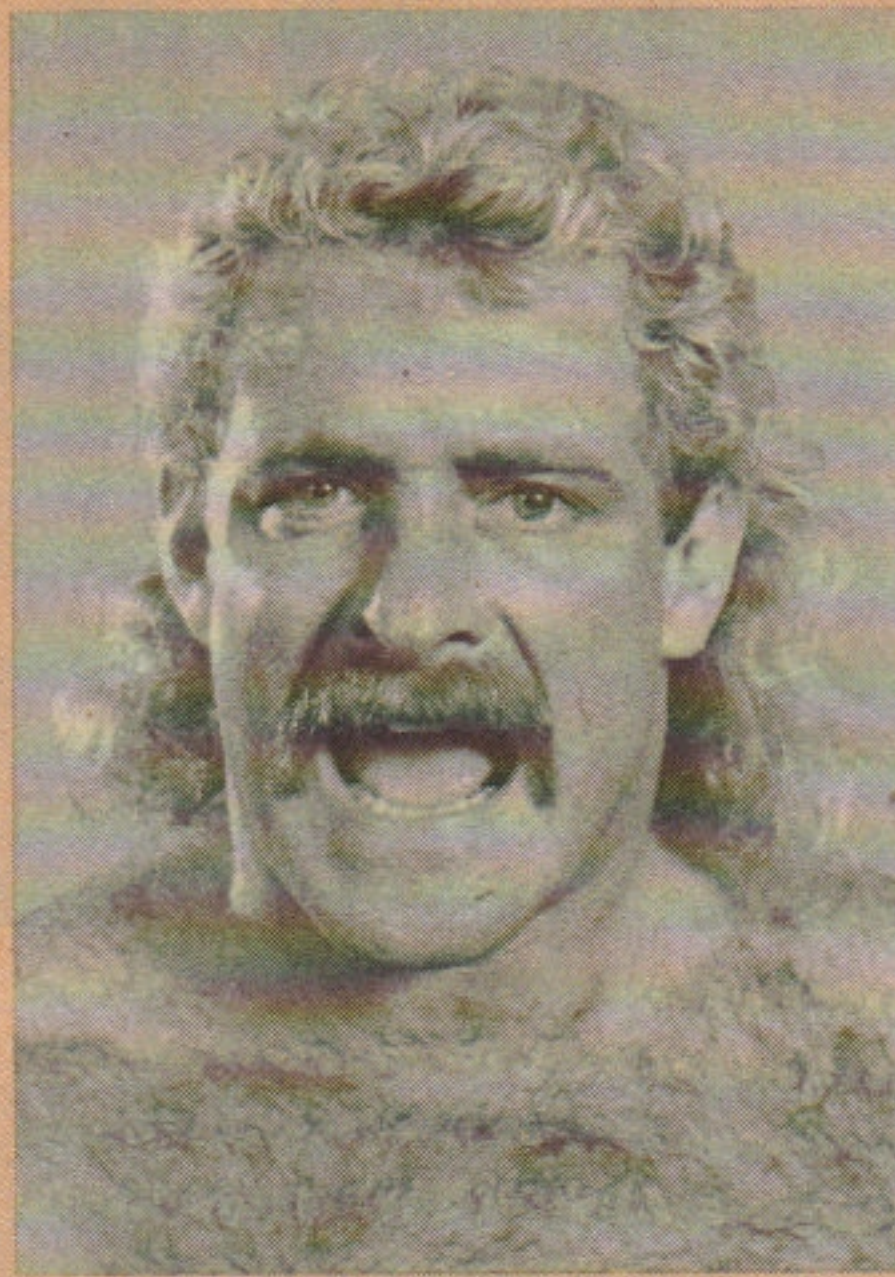
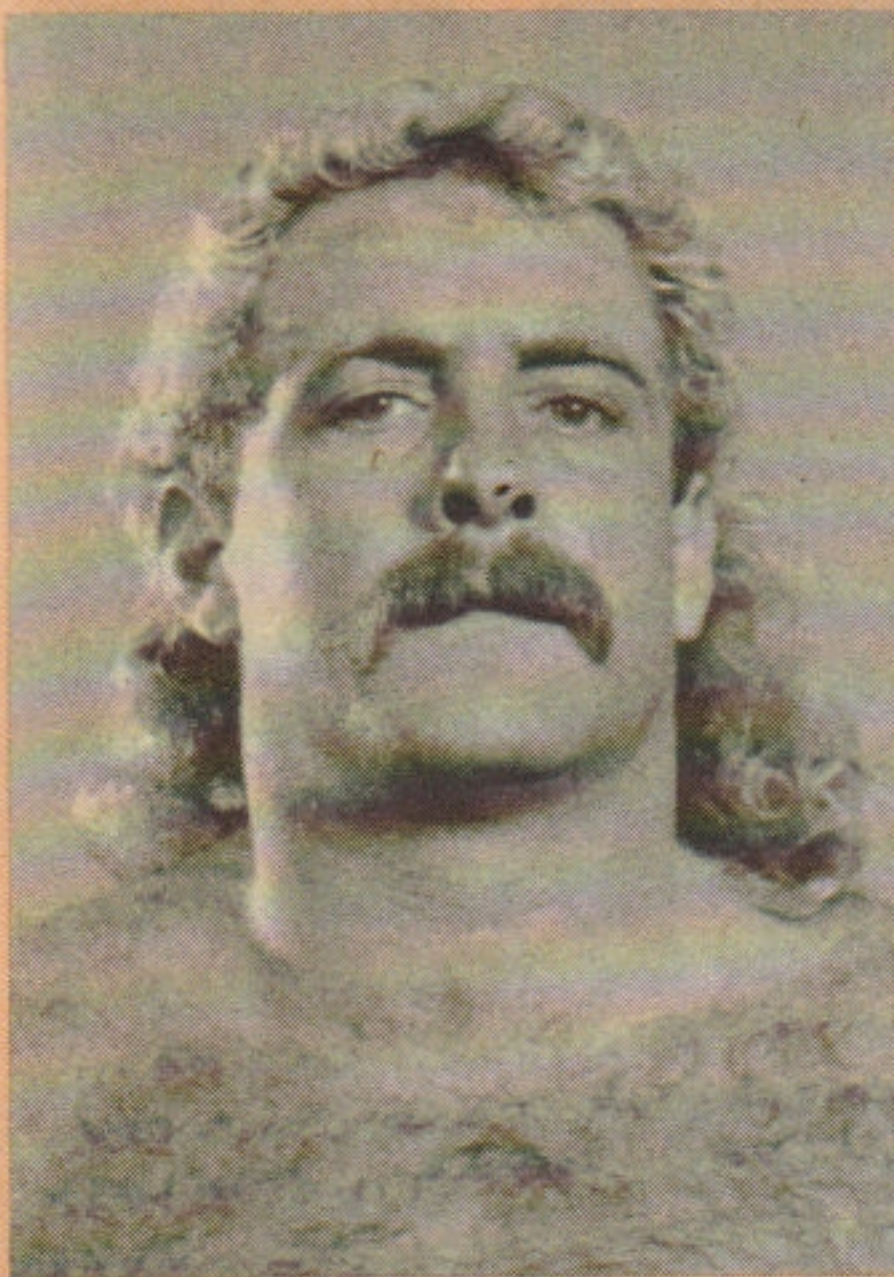
But Magnum T.A. has fought back from similar situations. Last summer his career sunk to new lows after he failed to wrest the NWA World championship from Ric Flair, and then lost the U.S. title to Tully Blan-

chard. After a brief mourning period, the real Magnum T.A. finally surfaced and he was better than ever.

Can he do it again? Twice down, can he recover? Just months ago he was the number one contender to Flair's title and number four in the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Top 10. Now he's number five and 10, respectively. He certainly has a long way to go.

Editor-in-Chief Peter King, Senior Editor Bill Apter, and Assistant Editor Dave Rosenbaum recently traveled to Magnum's home town of Chesapeake, Virginia, to speak with this ever-popular (his ranking in that category *hasn't* fallen) superstar. Frank and candid, Magnum's words say a lot about what the future holds.

MAGNUM T.A.: Welcome to my home, fellas. This is where I grew up, and every once in a while I drop by just to visit the folks and relax. See right out back there? [Magnum points to the backyard.] When I was 16 years old, my folks bought me that wrestling ring for Christmas, and I've had it ever



"The series [for the U.S. title] drained me, and losing made it even worse. But I've bounced back now and I'm ready to run [Nikita] Koloff back to Moscow."

since. Back in May when Dusty [Rhodes] and I were training for Con-drey and Eaton, we'd come here every once in a while to work in private.

DAVE ROSENBAUM: Magnum, I guess one of the advantages of wrestling in your own backyard is that you don't have to worry about outside interference.

T.A.: I'm not so sure about that, Dave. One day me and Dusty were wrestling back there and we just couldn't concentrate. My mother was cooking up a tray of lasagna in the kitchen and, man, we were just going nuts.

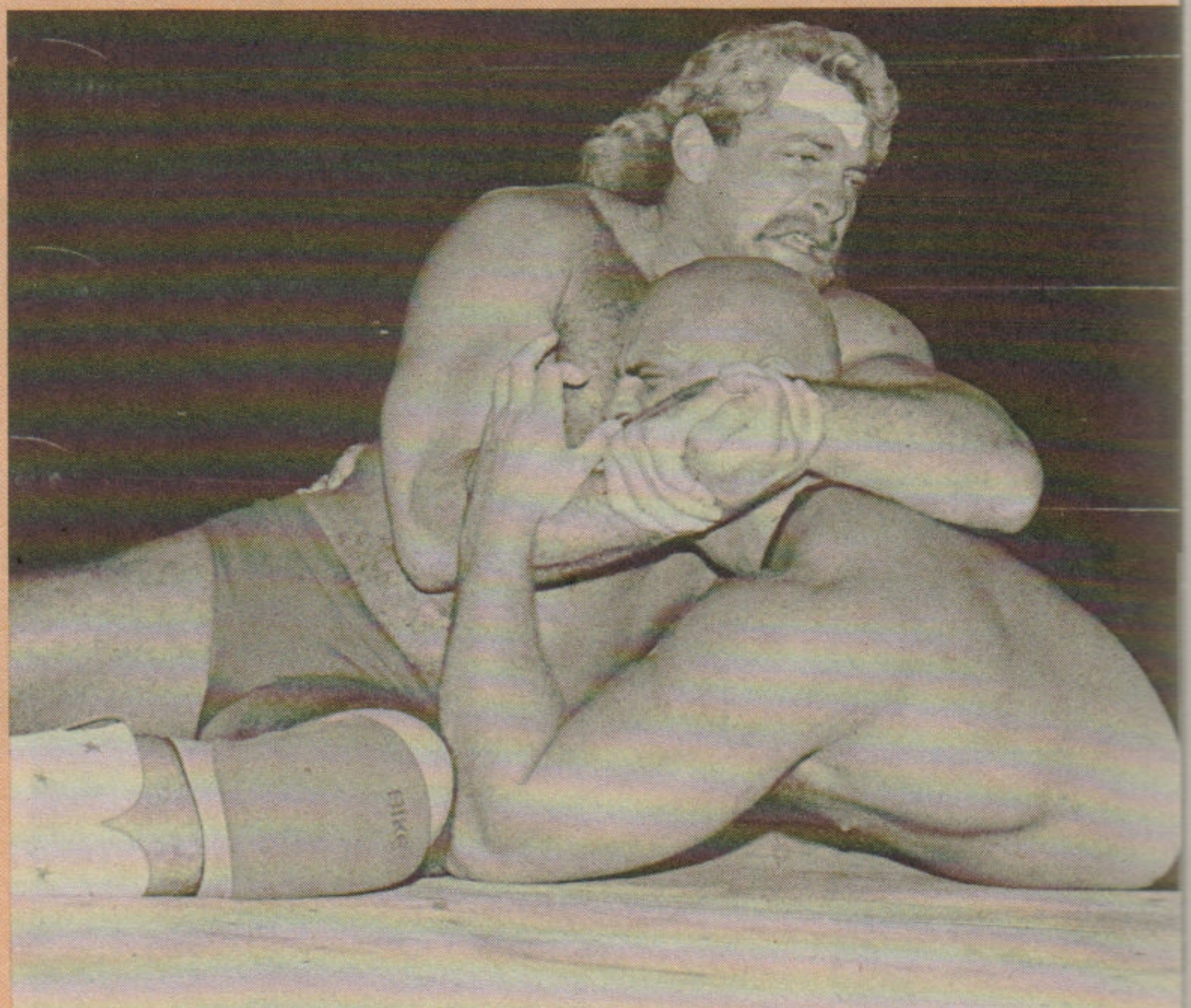
BILL APTER: So you gave in and ate?

T.A.: Naturally.

PETER KING: You obviously don't give in all that often, Magnum. I must say that you've managed to stay in excellent shape.

T.A.: Well, I have to Peter. In wrestling, the only tools you have are your body and your mind. If you don't keep them sharp, you're lost. I could have never gotten as far as I have if I didn't maintain a strict training program. I

(Continued on page 60)



Although he's still one of the most popular wrestlers in the world, Magnum T.A. is depressed and angry about losing the U.S. title to Nikita Koloff, who is straining to escape T.A.'s facelock (above). Perhaps now Magnum will have more opportunities to wrestle Ric Flair, here a victim of a Magnum backdrop (opposite page), for the NWA title.

PWI'S \$50,000 WHO IS THE BEST IN THE UWF?



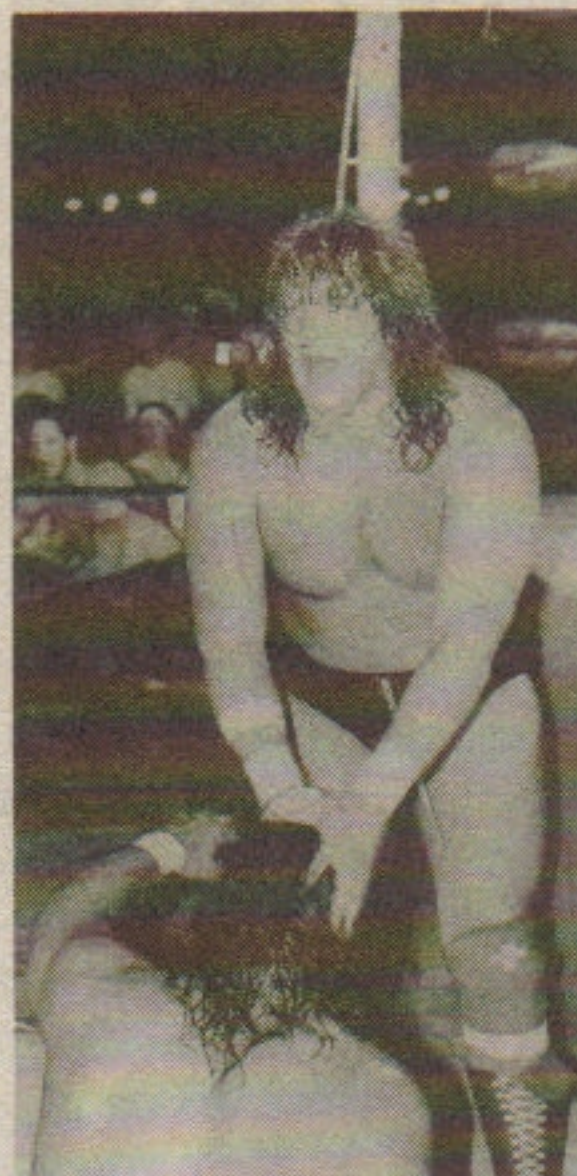
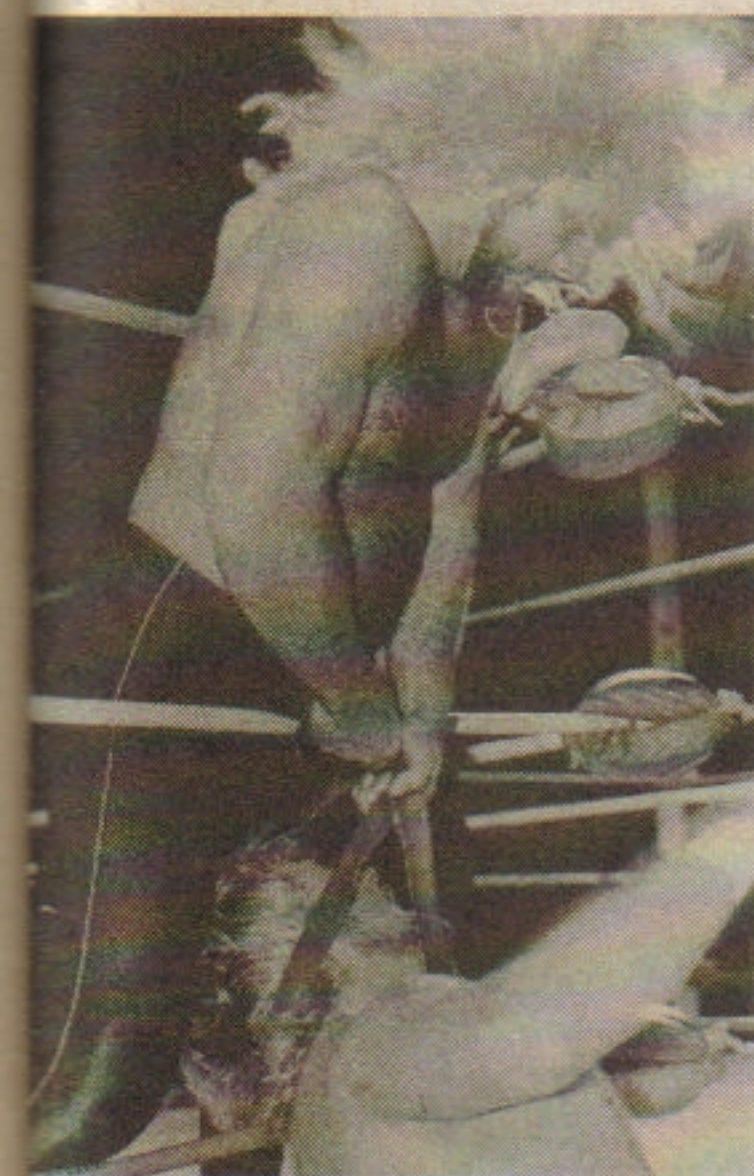
THE METAMORPHOSIS THAT the Universal Wrestling Federation has experienced since changing its name from Mid-South Wrestling is unparalleled in professional sports. Once a regional promotion with firm roots in Louisiana and Oklahoma, the UWF has now taken its place as one of the top three or four wrestling federations in the country.

Nationwide exposure. The UWF's weekly television show, *Bill Watts Presents*, can now be seen as far north as Connecticut and as far west as California, and plans are underway that would bring live cards to Georgia and Philadelphia. Its champion, Terry Gordy, is ranked one spot higher than AWA World champion Nick Bockwinkel in the *PWI* Top 10. The UWF has quickly earned a reputation for presenting some of the toughest and meanest wrestlers in the world.

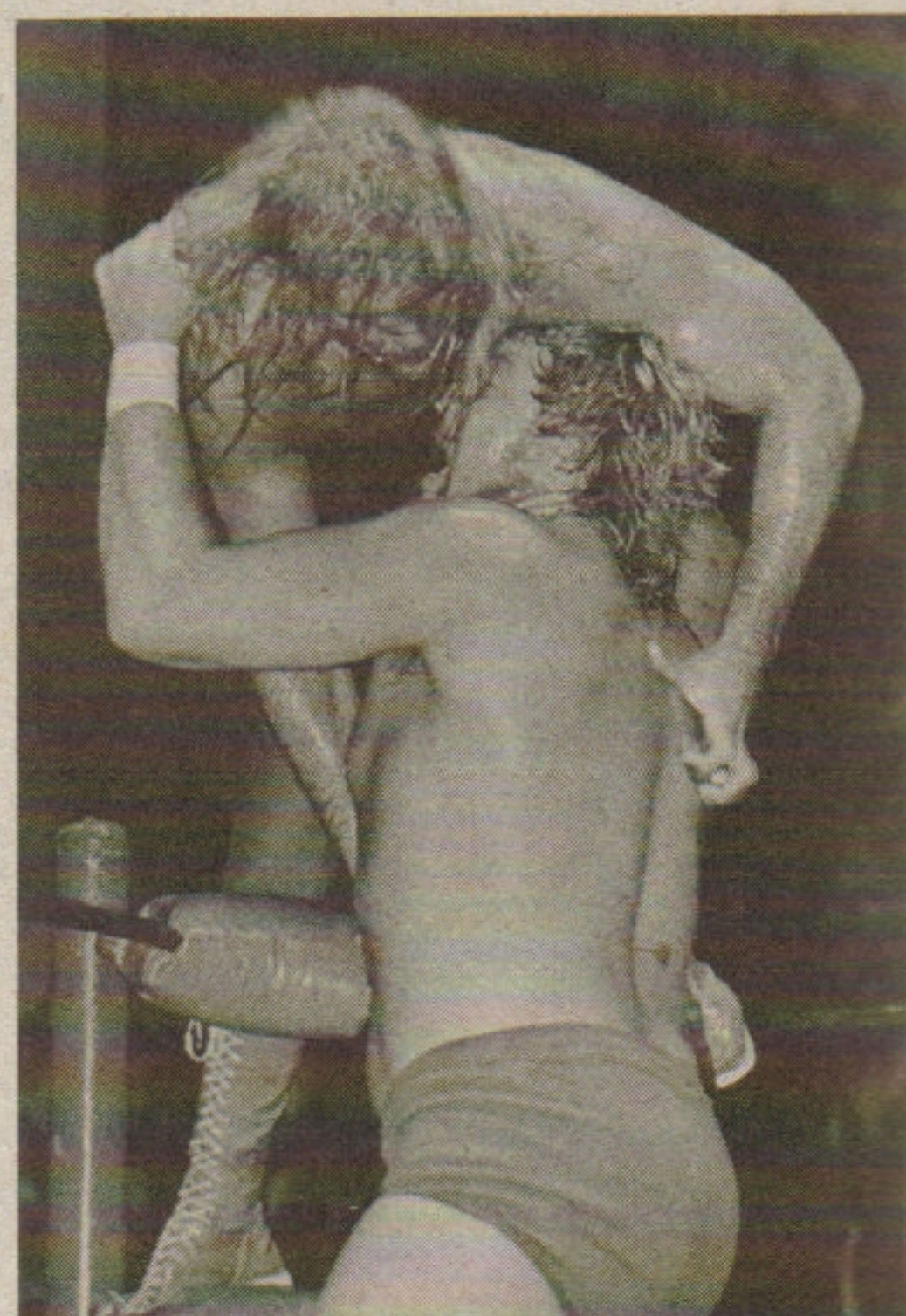
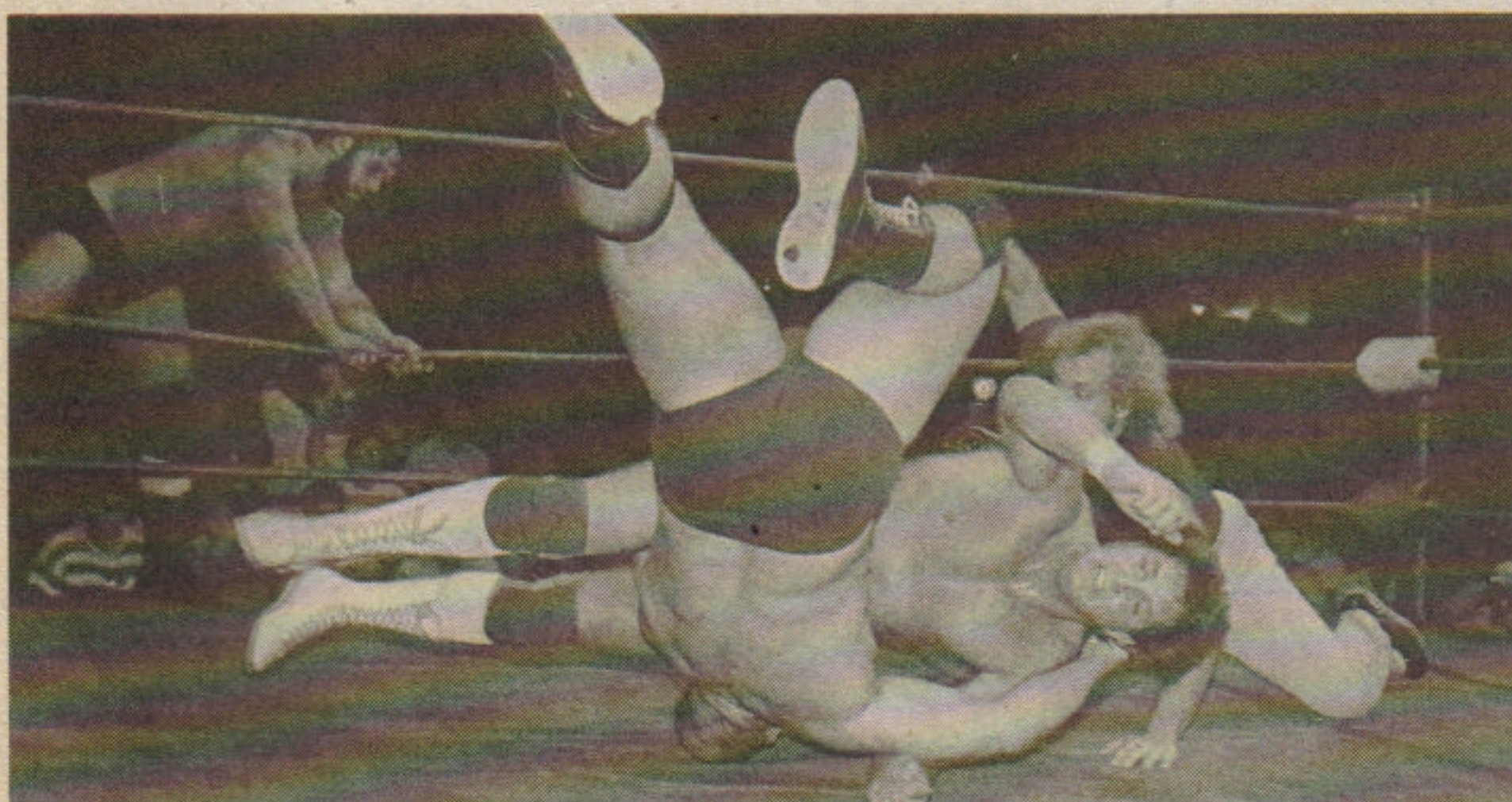
So, when the editors of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* decided to sponsor its first tournament, the UWF immediately came to mind. Few other regions could supply such a wide array of main-event quality wrestlers and none could offer more well-matched competition. After a quick phone call to UWF president Bill Watts, the wheels were put in motion and the first-ever *PWI/UWF* \$50,000 Challenge Tournament was born.

CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT:

The finest wrestlers in the UWF will compete for seven weeks for \$50,000 and the Pro Wrestling Illustrated Challenge Cup. This landmark event will go to arenas throughout the United States, bringing fans some of the greatest wrestling in the world



Michael Hayes, one of the favorites to win the PWI/UWF tournament, uses a strap to choke another favorite, Ted DiBiase (far left). Hayes' fellow Freebird, Terry Gordy, is slammed to the floor by Steve Williams (middle left), but Gordy, the UWF champion, gets ready to return the favor (left).



Buzz Sawyer kicks out of a pin attempt by the UWF's newest star, Chris Adams (left). Many experts say the Englishman will take the Cup. DiBiase, shown here trying to slam Hayes off the top turnbuckle (above), has heard the boos and now the cheers from fans who want him to win the prestigious event.

Before the first match could begin, certain complications and ground rules had to be worked out. Bill Watts and UWF official Ken Mantell met with PWI Editor-in-Chief Peter King and Senior Editor Bill Apter for one solid week

organizing the tournament. Finally, it was decided that the tournament would begin October 31 at the Sam Houston Coliseum in Houston and end at the same location on December 12.

"The tournament will run for

seven weeks at different sites throughout the United States," said Watts. "This will be a single elimination, bracketed tournament with a \$50,000 prize to the winner. Traditional tournament rules will be followed. Matches will have a 20-

30 minute time limit and a draw or double-disqualification will eliminate both wrestlers. This is very similar to the tournament we had to decide our first UWF champion [won by Terry Gordy]."

Naturally, excitement is building up throughout the UWF. By the time you read this, the tournament should be at its mid-point. As of press time, the final list of wrestlers to appear in the tournament

was being prepared. Here is a look at some of them:

Terry Gordy. Gordy has reigned as UWF champion since May and must be considered the favorite. Gordy has been involved in a grueling feud with former North American champion Hacksaw Duggan and any meeting between these two could be the highlight of the tournament. Gordy, however, is confident.

"This is my federation and I have no intention of losing," he says.

Hacksaw Duggan. By far the most popular wrestler in the UWF, Duggan was injured by One Man Gang before the finals of the UWF tournament and views this tournament as a way to restore his position as the best wrestler in the area. "I'm ready for this like I've never been ready for anything before," says Duggan. "I thrive on head-to-head tournament competition and I'd just love to get my hands on Gordy."

Chris Adams. The former World Class champion has just arrived on the UWF scene and is already in the thick of the action. But Adams, who bounced back from blindness to beat Rick Rude for the WCCW title, has proven that he's ready for anything. "This is a great opportunity for me," says the native of England. "If I win or do well, I can establish my place in the UWF."

Terry Taylor. The popular, personable UWF TV champion made a bold prediction a month before the tournament. In the January 1986 *Inside Wrestling* "Hotseat" interview with Managing Editor Stu Saks, Taylor said: "I will win the PWI/UWF tournament ... and prove to everybody the kind of wrestler Terry Taylor is."

John Tatum. As if Tatum didn't have enough to worry about with the explosive Missy Hyatt-Eddie Gilbert "love triangle," Tatum might not be in the proper emotional state to toss his personal problems aside and compete to the best of his abilities, but he's one of the most talented wrestlers in the area. Something to look forward to: a possible Tatum-Gilbert match.

Eddie Gilbert. The president of Hot Stuff Inc. has added incentive to win the tournament. A victory might win back the fickle Missy Hyatt, who has never been known to stick with losers. Throw in

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THE STORY BEHIND THE COVER

When Senior Editor Bill Apter first informed UWF officials that he planned to take a group photo of the wrestlers competing in the inaugural PWI/UWF \$50,000 Challenge Tournament, the reaction was similar to what would be expected if Mr. Rogers was told he would be having lunch with Dee Snider and David Lee Roth.

Good thing that Bill Apter is not one to take no for an answer. He calmly explained that a cover photo was needed for the issue introducing the tournament, and a posed shot of rulebreakers and fan favorites with the cup was a natural.

Apter had won the battle. Now came the war. He flew out to Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Friday, October 3, and began searching for a photo studio. Here he ran into yet another roadblock. Owners of the photo studios were willing to do business with Bill until they found out what he planned to do. Finally, down to the last studio within 50 miles of Tulsa, he convinced the owner to let him do the shoot. For a \$50,000 deposit. And \$500,000 in insurance.



The other cover photo

At last, the wrestlers were gathered together in the photo studio, but they weren't told what Apter had in mind.

None were very pleased when they found out.

"No way I'm posing for no photo with that scum DiBiase," said Michael Hayes.

"You're not getting me in the same room with no Freebirds," insisted Steve Williams.

Buddy Roberts started cursing at Apter. Terry Gordy actually walked out the door, but returned when UWF President Bill Watts threatened to fine him. Terry Taylor, one of the most softspoken men in wrestling,


stood on one side of the room, just glaring at his sworn enemies.

Then something happened. Taylor walked over to the tournament cup and picked it up. Suddenly, Roberts ran over to Taylor and started tugging on the cup. In an instant, and almost before Apter could pick up his camera, Taylor, Roberts, DiBiase, Hayes, Gordy, Williams, and One Man Gang were all tugging on the silver trophy, threatening to tear it into seven pieces.

Fortunately, the cup held up, and 20 seconds later, Apter had his photo. Quickly realizing what had happened, the wrestlers glared at our Senior Editor, almost as if they had been double-crossed. But before anything else could happen, they were all ushered out of the room.

Moments later, a second group, which included Sting, Chris Adams, Terry Gordy, and One Man Gang, came into the room and Apter tried it again. And although this scene was a little more controlled, Adams, a newcomer to the UWF, looked around the room and wondered, "What in the world made me come here?"

Two days later, the studio session still fresh in his mind, Apter wondered the same thing as he headed for Tulsa International Airport and the flight home.



World Championship Wrestling Confidential

BABY DOLL TELLS ALL!

By Baby Doll

ICAN'T BELIEVE you people. All of you. All the fans who have written to me over the past few months. You practically put me on a pedestal, and then you talk about me in terms that would disgust a sailor.

Before I get too wound up in things, I feel I should first thank Peter King, Bill Apter, and all the folks at *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* for giving me this opportunity to speak directly to the fans.

Believe me, I have a lot to say.

First of all, I want to talk to the fans who wrote me letters during The Great American Bash. You fans all said how great I was. You practically made me into a goddess. The gushing

Since turning her back on Dusty Rhodes and her duties as his "personal," Baby Doll has undergone a lot of changes. In this *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* exclusive, Baby Doll sets the record straight about her current attitudes and her plans for the future



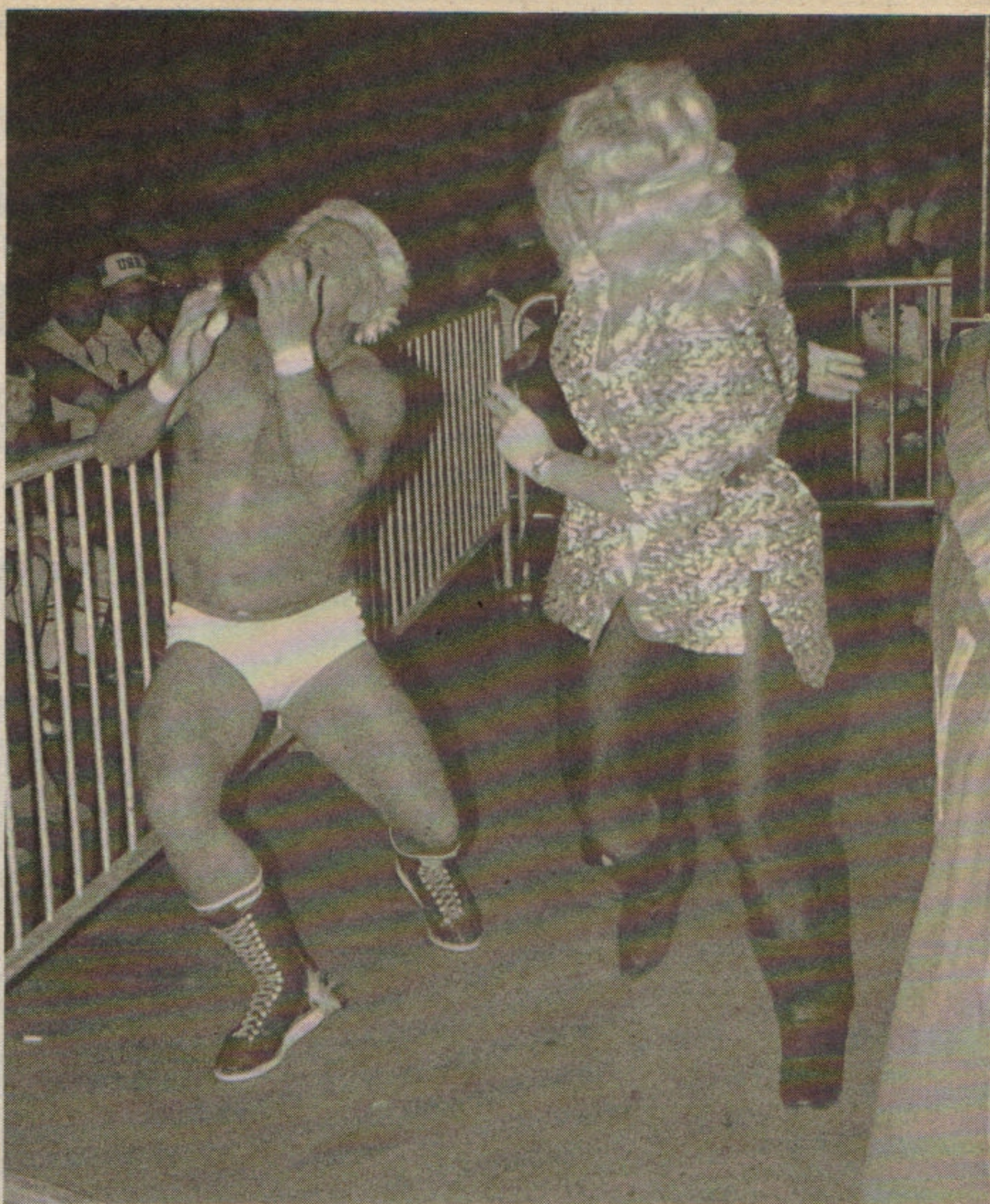
praise in your words was astounding to me. I was honored.

Then, all because Dusty Rhodes loses the NWA World title to Ric Flair—the *real* champion of the sport—and because I prefer not to be associated with a loser like Dusty, you turn like snakes. Your praise turned to poison.

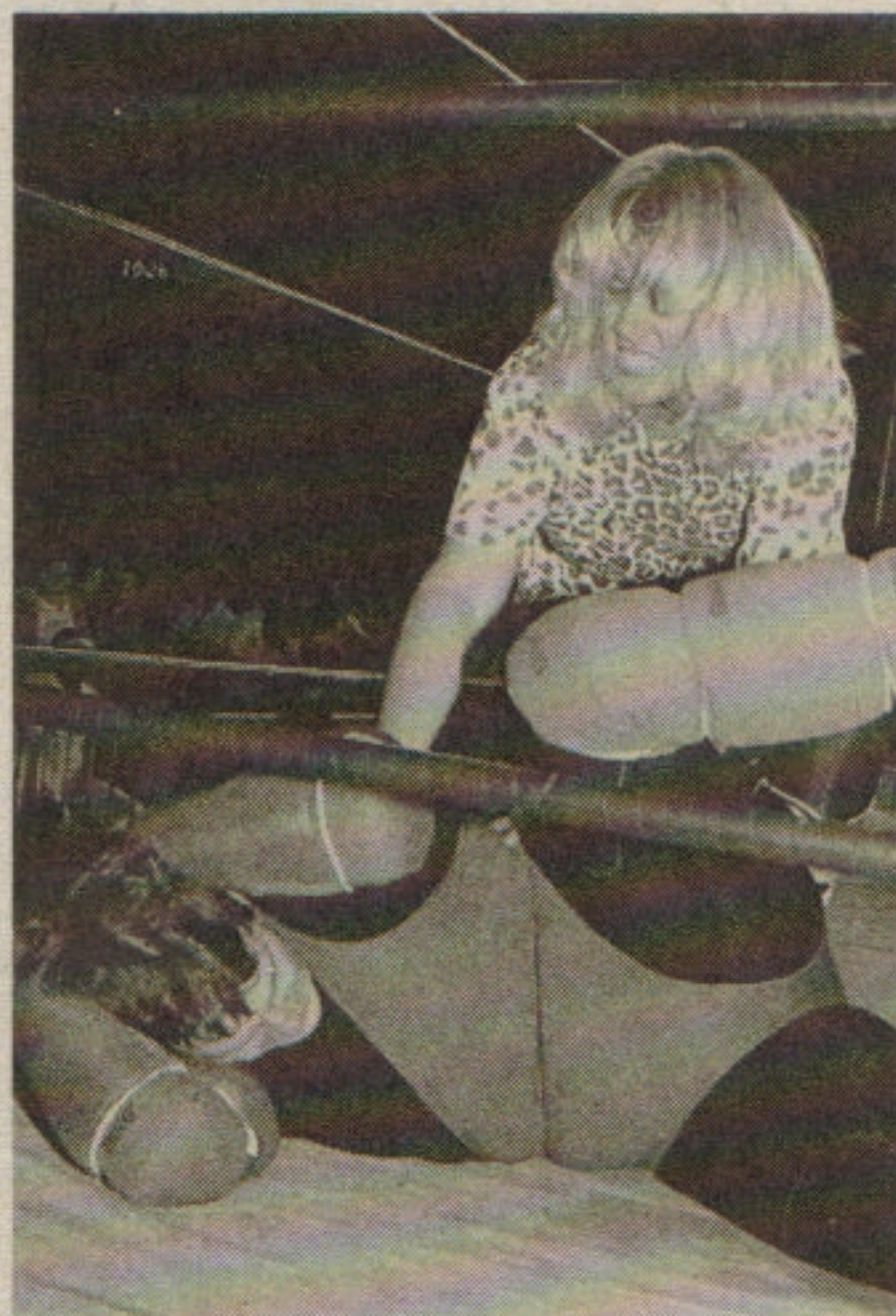
You talked about me being a turn-coat, but what about yourselves? Don't judge me, folks, until you take a good, close look at yourselves. You, who compliment me one day and insult me the next. I've never changed. Dusty changed; I simply followed my own conscience. You fans are the ones who changed, the ones who are two-faced. Like I said, take a close look at yourselves. If you have half a brain, you probably won't like what you see.

Oh, there's so much to talk about. Maybe I should begin with Dusty Rhodes. I've talked about him before, and my opinion hasn't changed. He's a loser. He needed so many shots at the title to win it, and then he can't even hold on to it once he does have it. Aren't you sick of seeing Slick Ric wrestle that toad? I know I am. He's an embarrassment to the sport, and he was an embarrassment to me as long as I stood with him.

Ric Flair, on the other hand, is anything but an embarrassment to the sport. He's got class, good looks, and the NWA World title. He's become *the*



Saying that she couldn't associate with a loser, Baby Doll joined with Ric Flair (top left) after Flair regained the title from Dusty Rhodes. She has helped Flair by interfering in his matches against such opponents as Ronnie Garvin (above).



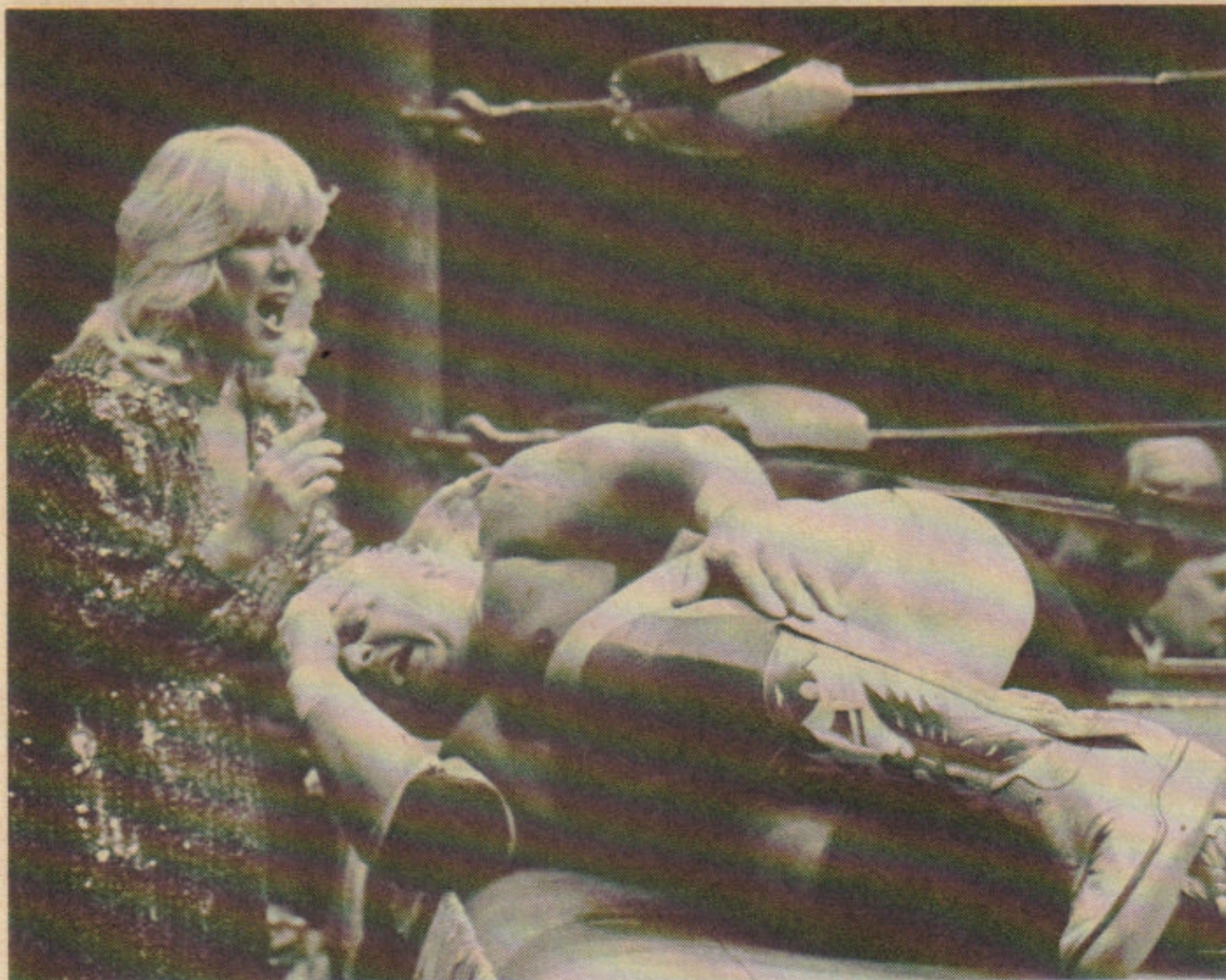
Baby Doll has Jim Cornette down on the canvas during one of several matches they had at The Great American Bash. Since becoming friendly with Cornette's mother, Baby Doll has ambivalent feelings about her old foe.

NWA champion of record for the decade of the '80s, and he's going to be the man to guide the sport into the '90s. He has set a standard that most other wrestlers can't hope to meet in their entire lives.

Now I'm not going to be spending all my time with Slick Ric. He's got more women than any other man in the sport, and he certainly doesn't want to be tied down by me. And I don't want to be tied down to him. For now, we're just good friends.

I have other concerns now. My parents were both wrestlers, I've had some ring training myself, and my experiences with Gino Hernandez, Mike Von Erich, Tully Blanchard, Dusty Rhodes, and Ric Flair have taught me a lot about the sport.

I'm going to be devoting myself to full-time managing.



When he was NWA television champion, Dusty bragged about his "personal," Baby Doll (top right), who was always at his side during crucial matches (above). Baby Doll now considers Dusty "an embarrassment to the sport."

Yes, managing. My first charge will be The Warlord, a physical specimen to rival the power and potential of The Road Warriors themselves. I have certain philosophies about bringing a young wrestler along in this sport, and The Warlord is going to be that young wrestler.

I'm going to bring him along slowly. I have the utmost confidence in my abilities, and I know that my plans will be successful: By the end of 1987, The Warlord will hold a major NWA singles title.

Speaking of managers, a lot of your mail to me has mentioned another manager: Jim Cornette.

I have mixed feelings about Cornette. I admire his Midnight Express for the success they've enjoyed in the NWA, but I think that Jim himself—well, he's just a spoiled mama's . . . an immature . . . he was . . . you know, Cornette's somebody I just don't want to talk about. He and I have had our differences, that's well known. I just don't want to talk about him.

His mother, though, is a wonderfully



sweet woman. You know, I don't think Jim really appreciates his mother. She's a very smart lady, a *classy* lady. She has a lot of very good taste; I've spent a good deal of time at her house, and I helped her redecorate several rooms. She and I are getting quite close, you know. Perhaps she'll even choose to invest in The Warlord's career at some time in the future. You never can tell.

Right now, however, my main concern is to develop The Warlord's wrestling career, and my own skills as a manager. I'm looking for new talent to add to my stable, new talent that can be nurtured, that can develop slowly, that can grow to become dominant forces within five years.

I'm very enthusiastic about The Warlord; I feel he'll become a dominant force in wrestling far sooner than five years from now. In fact, I have a specific plan that I would like to implement, with The Warlord's help.

I would like Dusty Rhodes to wrestle The Warlord during the 1987 Great American Bash. That is, if the toad is brave enough to step through the ropes with my man. I guarantee that if the match does take place, it will be the last match Dusty ever participates in.

And that would make me very, very happy—to put Dusty Rhodes out of wrestling once and for all and end the embarrassment—to all of us.

I think that would please Mrs. Cornette quite a bit, too. □

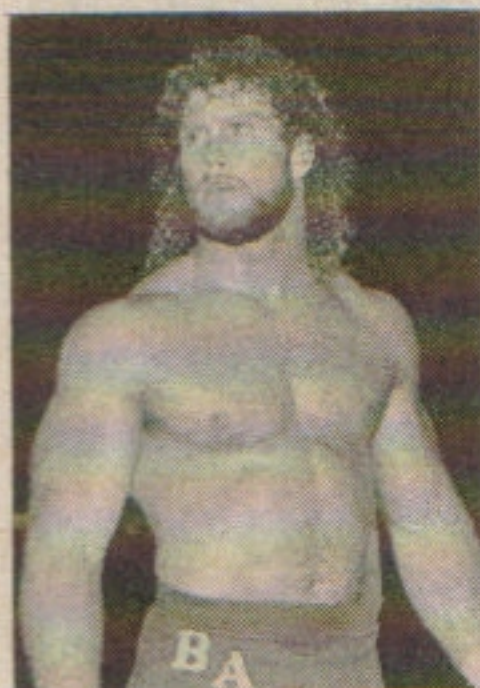


As Tully Blanchard's valet, Baby Doll came to last year's Great American Bash in style. Her days as a valet are apparently over; she has taken to managing full-time.

Scouting Report

A NO-HOLDS-BARRED LOOK AT WRESTLING'S TOP STARS

In this magazine version of the TV counterpart seen on SuperStation WTBS, *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Scouting Reports* will examine the relative strengths and weaknesses of wrestling's top stars. There will be no punches pulled as the sport's athletes undergo the harshest scrutiny anywhere in the wrestling world.



BRAD ARMSTRONG

HOME TOWN: Marietta, GA
HEIGHT: 6'
WEIGHT: 226
YEARS AS PRO: 6
RATING: No. 9 in World Championship

STRENGTHS:

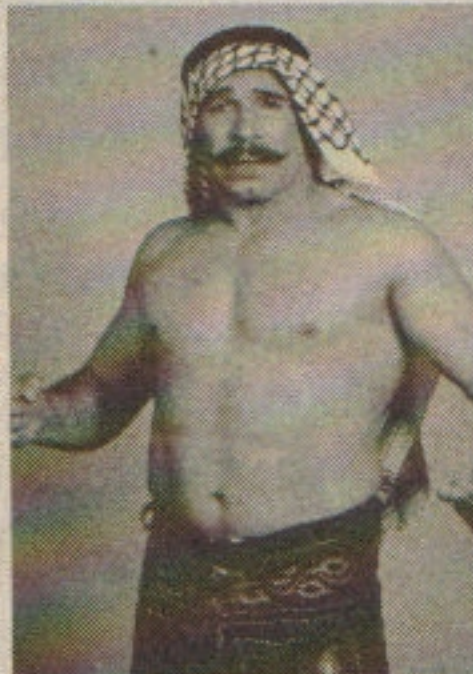
- Training. Brad's knowledge of the sport, to which father Bob contributed greatly, is far above average.
- Leg strength. This provides him both with speed and a boost to his aerial excellence.
- Improvement. Has strengthened his style and repertoire every year as a pro.

WEAKNESSES:

- Injuries. Has a history of back and neck trouble dating back to 1981 and 1982.
- Opposition. Has not faced a wide variety of top competition in several years.
- Slow starter. Seldom breaks a sweat in the dressing room prior to a match, thus starting out cold.

OTHER COMMENTS: Won the U.S. junior heavyweight title six months after his pro debut . . . Voted *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Rookie of the Year in 1982 . . . Wrestled in tag team competition with his father, Bob Armstrong . . . Held the National heavyweight title several times.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Brad recently signed to wrestle in the World Championship area. The question is: How will he fare against the competition there? Will he go for singles or tag team matches? He's got the skills, but does he have the enthusiasm and drive? If so, he could go far.



IRON SHEIK

HOME TOWN: Teheran, Iran
HEIGHT: 6'
WEIGHT: 262
YEARS AS PRO: 14
RATING: unrated

STRENGTHS:

- Magnificent amateur background. Was a 1968 Olympic bronze medalist for Iran in the Mexico City Games.
- Suplexes. Iron Sheik's variations of this move are some of the best in the sport.
- Upper body and upper arm strength. This has been impressively displayed with his exercise clubs.

WEAKNESSES:

- Stale style. May have spent too long a time as a tag team partner with Nikolai Volkoff.
- Psyched out. Several quick defeats at the hands of Hulk Hogan seem to have sapped his drive.
- Unnecessary overdependence on rulebreaking methods. He is a superb *wrestler*, and should not need to break rules.

OTHER COMMENTS: Once the personal bodyguard of The Shah of Iran . . . Defeated Bob Backlund for the WWF title on December 26, 1983, and lost it to Hulk Hogan on January 23, 1984 . . . Feud with Sgt. Slaughter was the hottest war of 1984.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: More of the same as we've seen in '86. Tag team matches with Volkoff and singles matches against sub-par competition. He should find a new partner, or move out on his own full-time, and regain his fighting spirit.



STING

HOME TOWN: parts unknown

HEIGHT: 6'2"

WEIGHT: 270

YEARS AS PRO: 1

RATING: No. 9 in UWF

STRENGTHS:

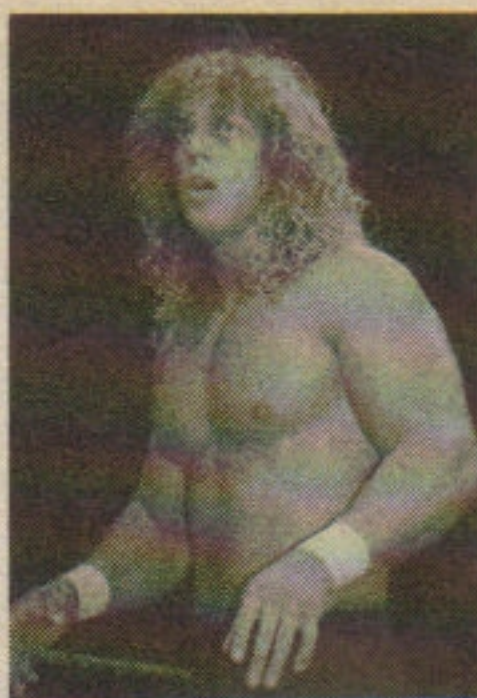
- Power. Devotes much time to weight training. His over-the-head slam is a lethal weapon.
- Ability to absorb punishment. Solidly built, he rarely bleeds and is tough to wear down.
- Even temper. Sting is the perfect counterpart to the more volatile Eddie Gilbert, which is an asset in tag team matches.

WEAKNESSES:

- Lack of scientific skill. Relies on pushing and shoving more than wrestling maneuvers.
- Still a sucker for a smart counterwrestler. Power can take him a long way, but his moves are primitive.
- Tag team specialist. Was trained for tag team wrestling and is ill-equipped for the rigors of singles competition.

OTHER COMMENTS: Formerly one-half of The Blade Runners with Rock . . . He and Gilbert defeated The Fantastics for the UWF tag title on July 20, 1986, before losing it back in September . . . Refuses to discuss his personal background.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Sting has great potential, but because of his affiliation with Gilbert hasn't been schooled in scientific techniques. If he can become a more well-rounded wrestler, Sting has the tools to become one of the more formidable singles competitors in the UWF.



STEVE SIMPSON

HOME TOWN: Johannesburg, South Africa

HEIGHT: 6'2"

WEIGHT: 230

YEARS AS PRO: 3

RATING: No. 5 in World Class

STRENGTHS:

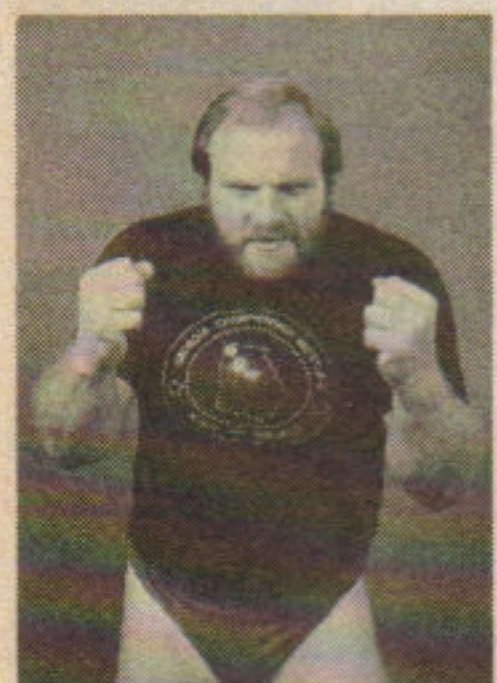
- Excellent aerial skills. Yet another World Class athlete carved from the Von Erich mold.
- Pretty-boy image. Looks more like a rock star than a wrestler and opponents tend to underestimate him.
- Well-schooled. Has wrestled throughout Europe and assimilated various styles into his own.

WEAKNESSES:

- Too nice. Constantly stands by while the Von Erichs steal his thunder. Toughen up, Steve.
- Too light. At 230 pounds, Simpson is well-built but one of the lightest men in wrestling. Bulk up, Steve.
- Long hair. Very susceptible to hair pulls and has limited peripheral vision. Get a haircut, Steve.

OTHER COMMENTS: Substituting for Kevin Von Erich, teamed with Kerry and Lance to win the six-man tag team belts from The Freebirds on May 4, 1986, but wasn't given a share of the title . . . Held the Pacific Northwest tag team title with Joe Savoldi in 1985.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Simpson took the World Class area by storm upon his arrival but has since cooled down. To be successful, he must forge his own identity and break away from the Von Erichs. If he can do this, he'll be a challenger for the World Class title.



OLE ANDERSON

HOME TOWN: Minneapolis, MN

HEIGHT: 6'1"

WEIGHT: 256

YEARS AS PRO: 21

RATING: No. 10 in World Championship

STRENGTHS:

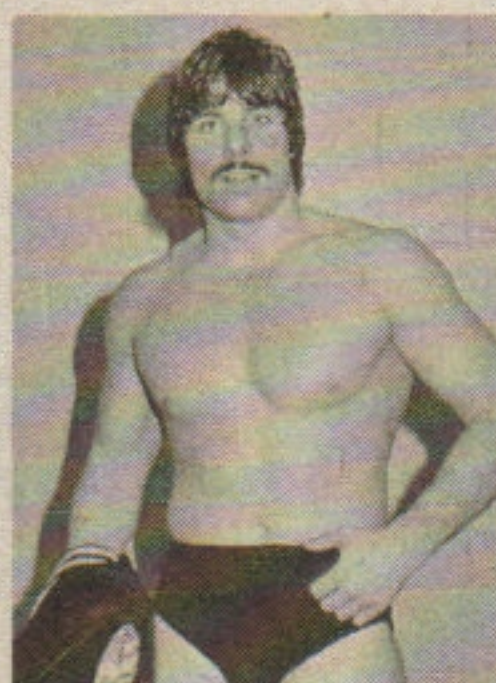
- A feared opponent. Opposing wrestlers always name him as someone they don't like to wrestle.
- Methodical. Concentrates on one part of his opponent's body and wears it down. Surprisingly patient.
- Outstanding tag team wrestler. Perhaps one of the 10 best of the past 20 years.

WEAKNESSES:

- Strength. Once one of the strongest in the game, wrestling has changed and he can be outmuscled by over 50 percent of his foes.
- Speed. Ole is not a fast man and he has trouble with speedy wrestlers he can't drop to mat.
- Dusty Rhodes. Singleminded obsession with running Dusty out of wrestling puts limits on his time.

OTHER COMMENTS: He and brother Gene Anderson were known as "The Minnesota Wrecking Crew" and held the NWA World tag team title in the early '80s . . . Part of the feared Four Horsemen with cousin Arn, Ric Flair, and Tully Blanchard.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: With 21 years in the sport, Ole is reaching that now-or-never point in his career. The Andersons are one of the most potent tag teams in wrestling, but they sometimes get too involved with Flair's and Blanchard's feuds.



LANNY POFFO

HOME TOWN: Downer's Grove, IL

HEIGHT: 6'

WEIGHT: 228

YEARS AS PRO: 13

RATING: unrated

STRENGTHS:

- Superb agility and gymnastic balance. Poffo is a former gymnast and knows how to get around the ring.
- Deceptively strong. Although not as strong as brother Randy Savage, he occasionally overpowers an opponent.
- Spars extensively (and privately) with his brother, which has made him a more well-rounded wrestler.

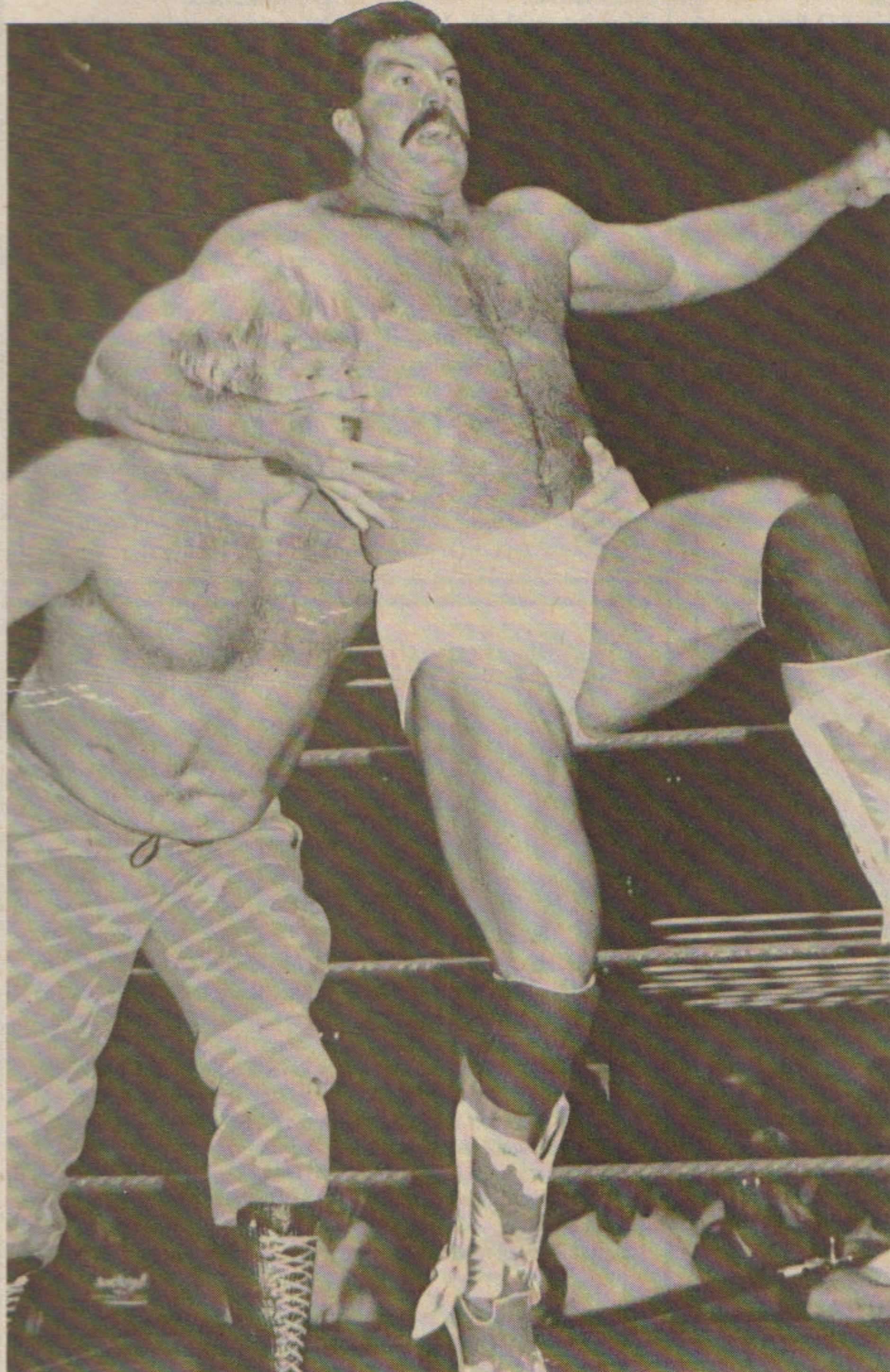
WEAKNESSES:

- Size. Trying to bulk up to face bigger and stronger WWF stars has sapped his speed.
- Reverse flip off the turnbuckle is spectacular but mildly effective, far too dangerous, and often backfires.
- Lacks killer instinct. Which might have something to do with his love for poetry. Poffo needs to toughen up, especially when he has an edge.

OTHER COMMENTS: Teamed with his father, Angelo Poffo, for many years and also with his brother . . . Won the ICW title in 1978, but lost it to his brother on July 21, 1979 . . . Wrestled Randy in a brother vs. brother match exclusively for *Wrestling 85*.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: The only way for Lanny to escape the shadow of his more famous and more talented brother would be to leave the WWF. Poffo lacks the skills to make it here and would only help himself by moving on to another area. A WWF title of any kind in 1987 is very unlikely.

For The Good Of Wrestling: SCOTT HALL MUST SHUT COL. DeBEERS MOUTH!



A SAMPLING OF the wit and wisdom of Col. DeBeers:

On the United States: "The U.S. of A. started to lose its power and respect around the world precisely at the conclusion of the Civil War. It was at this point that the United States government made a conscious decision to give free reign to even the lowest human beings, thereby poisoning the general sampling."

On his native South Africa: "Mine is the only country in the world with the guts and intelligence to separate those who are productive and an asset to society from those who would like nothing more than to be given things on a silver platter. My government has been able to do what none other can: control harmful elements."

On black people: "They are neither man nor beast, but something in between. They lack the brains to function in society and therefore are virtually useless to society. When given any rights at all, they abuse them and ask for more. They are never satisfied. I am not saying that we should eliminate the Negro race, but they must be kept under control, like animals in a zoo."

Back in 1978, Vanessa Redgrave received the "Best Actress" Oscar

Col. DeBeers' views are not only an affront to basic human rights, they also hang a black cloud over all of professional wrestling. This man must be stopped, and only Scott Hall can do the job!

award for her work in the motion picture *The Turning Point*. Redgrave was a supporter and rumored benefactor of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, and used the occasion of her acceptance speech to criticize Israel and support this terrorist machine.

Back in 1984, when the San Diego Padres made an unexpected visit to the World Series, the John Birch Society received unprecedented attention because many Padre players were members of this ultraconservative organization. The ideas of Birchers are viewed as racist and radical, and this unusual publicity was deemed unfortunate by liberals and rightwingers alike.

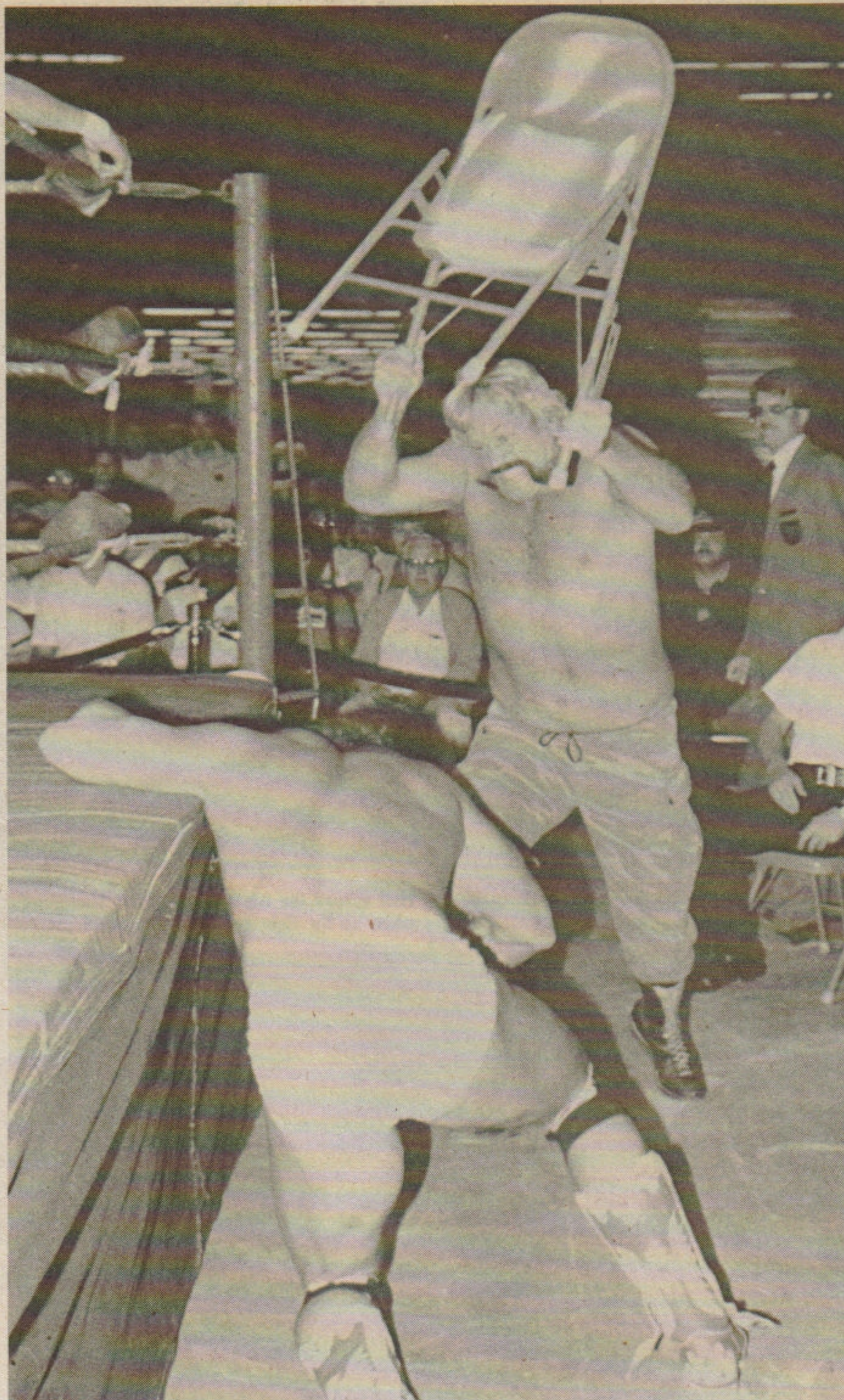
It's 1986, and Col. DeBeers is one of the top contenders for the AWA World championship currently held by Nick Bockwinkel. When DeBeers is the subject of television and newspaper interviews, he never fails to use the opportunity to air his pro-apartheid views. His position in the sporting world has made him a spokesperson for the South African government. In the eyes of many observers, this must be stopped.

Only one man can do the job.

His walk says it all. Forceful, yet graceful. Quick, but with no sense of urgency. He has the swagger of a man who is content with himself, but doesn't need to have his ego exercised. Looking straight ahead, he seems to lack direction, but he has a purpose in mind.

Scott Hall learned a long time ago that people view you the way you view yourself. Self-esteem isn't given by other people, it comes from within a man's soul, his to design and build up for himself. If a person needs others to build his self-esteem, he really doesn't have any self-esteem at all. When people ask Hall his views on non-wrestling matters, he usually refuses to say a word. His thoughts are his own and don't require justification. Scott Hall is his own man.

Yet, despite the lack of outside in-

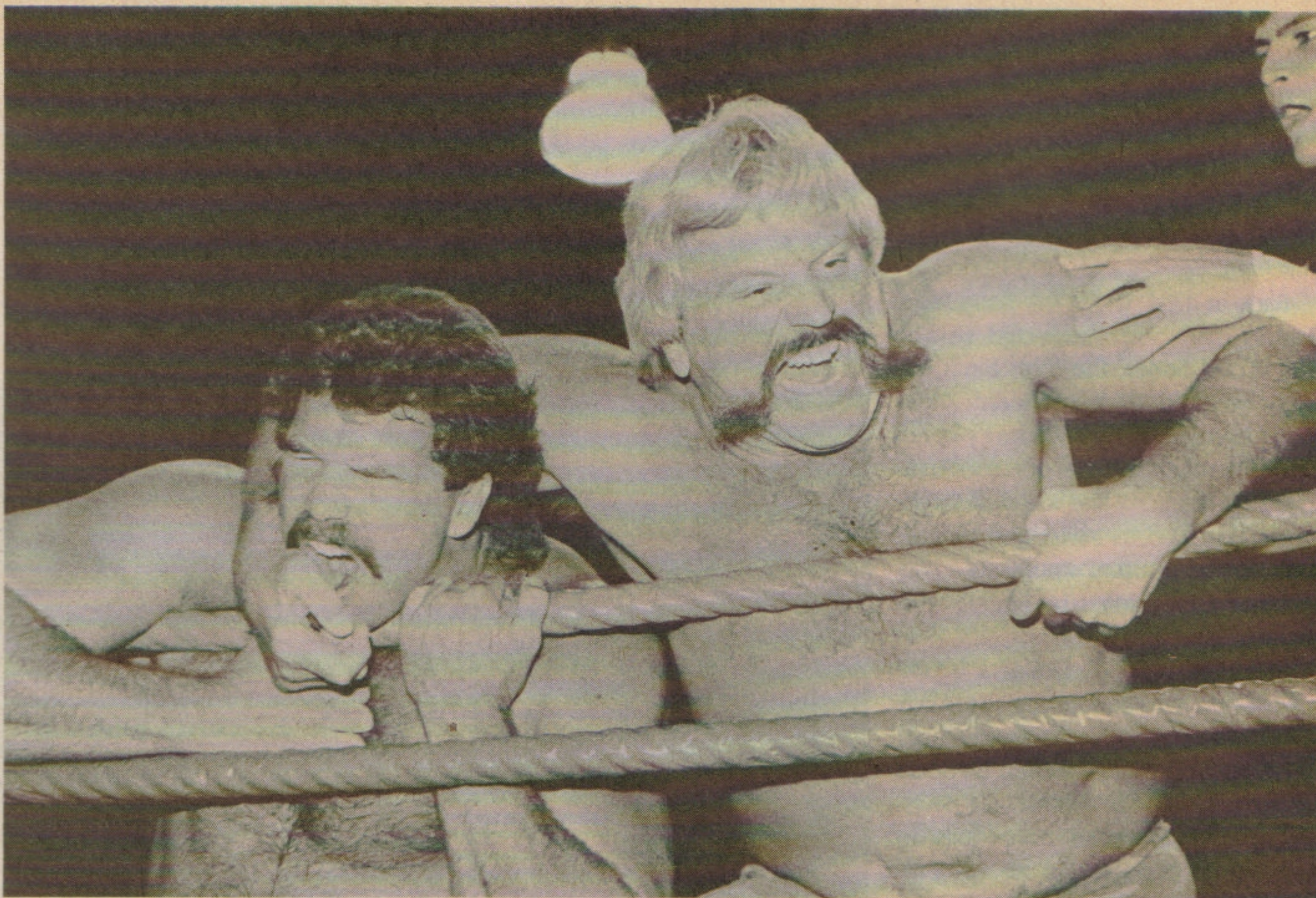


Col. DeBeers, the controversial South African, smashes Scott Hall with a steel chair. Their hatred for one another often cannot be contained within the ring. Not only are DeBeers' politics abhorrent, but his outside interference cost Hall and Curt Hennig the AWA World tag belts.

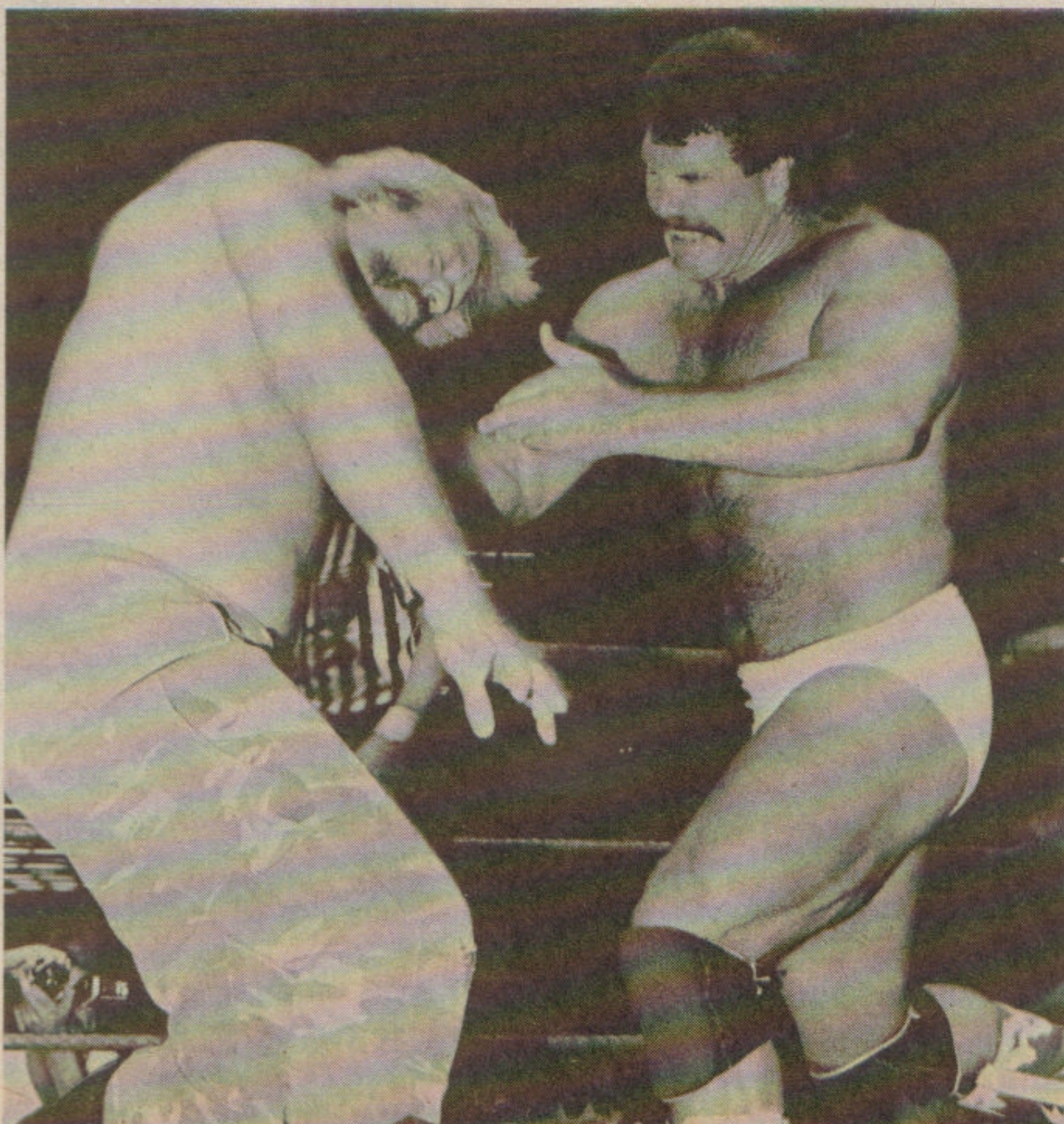
fluence in his life, despite his willingness to accept other people's ideas and beliefs at face value, Hall is bothered by Col. DeBeers. He doesn't like the man, and he doesn't like what the man has to say. Hall is not fond of people who put down others.

Surprisingly, Hall never even gave a thought to apartheid and South African politics before DeBeers came to the AWA. To Hall, politics was a foreign matter and apartheid was something he couldn't do anything about. And if you can't do anything about something, why think about it?

"DeBeers made me realize that something *can* be done," says Hall. "People like DeBeers need to be silenced and the black people in



As the referee helplessly looks on, DeBeers chokes Hall against the ropes (above), but Hall comes back with a slap across the face (below). Hall has taken up the fight for the rights of all people.



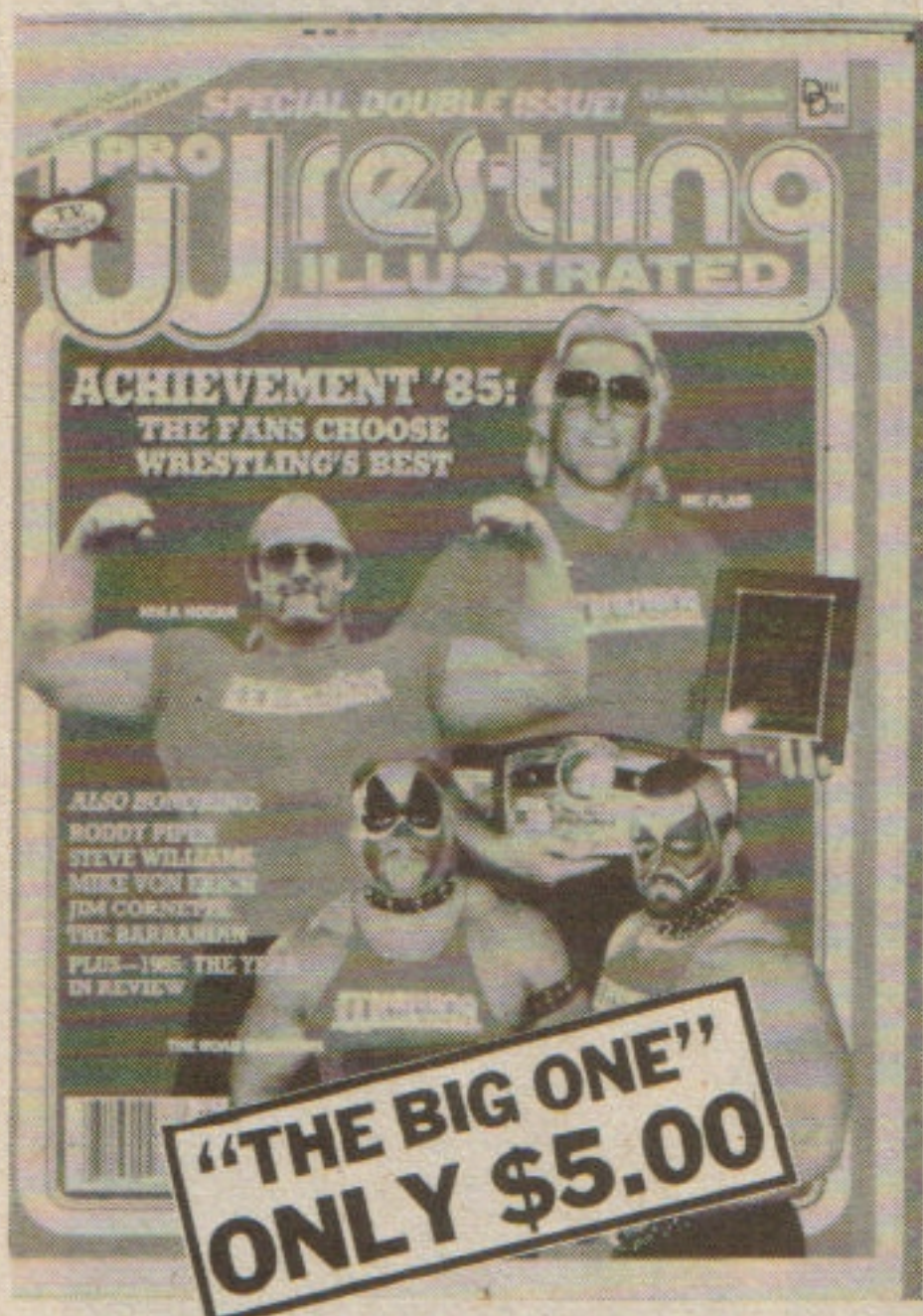
South Africa and around the world need to know that the white man does care about them. We're all in this together and skin color has nothing to do with it. What we're talking about here is human rights."

It's a basic fact of United States constitutional law that every man living within the boundaries of the country has a right to his opinion without fear of persecution. The same laws that apply to our most respected statesmen also apply to a drunken old beggar who stands on top of a broken milk crate and mumbles incoherently.

But it is against the laws of human decency to use an acquired position in sports or entertainment to air your views on world politics. This is taking advantage of a privilege. It cannot be allowed. Col. DeBeers' words put a black mark on all of professional wrestling, and this must not be tolerated.

It's long past the time for Scott Hall to shut Col. DeBeers' mouth. In any way possible. □

A SECOND CHANCE TO CATCH "THE BIG ONE"



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DRESSING ROOM CONFIDENTIAL

(Continued from page 12)

ics Group, stepped in and said "enough is enough, you're making money off our character's name." Rather than drop the name Hulk Hogan and forfeit all the time and money that went into popularizing the name within wrestling, the WWF was forced to settle legally with Marvel, and that cost them some big bucks.

In a similar circumstance, Billy Jack Haynes originally made his reputation in wrestling under the name Billy Jack, named after the movie character. The actor who played Billy Jack in the movies, Tom Laughlin, threatened the wrestler with a lawsuit if he did not change his name. Thus, the birth of Billy Jack Haynes.

"What am I going to do?" Magnum says when pressed to discuss the Scott Hall situation. "I like Scott and I have a lot of respect for his abilities. We worked out together while he was in our area with Danny Spivey. He's good enough that he doesn't have to do it this way. But, like I said, I like the man and I wish him the best."

This is not the first instance where AWA wrestlers have been accused of being unoriginal in the nickname department. When The Midnight Rockers first came on the scene, the first thing that came to the minds of everyone familiar with NWA wrestling was that the name was a conglomeration of The Midnight Express and The Rock 'n' Roll Express. As Shawn Michaels and Marty Jannetty legitimately build their reputations as a truly outstanding tag team and the name "Midnight Rockers" becomes part of our wrestling vocabulary, we tend to forget that the origins of the name were lifted from teams that had already worked hard to build the names before them. But that

doesn't make what they did right, of course.

The days when a wrestler or a wrestling promoter can assume that fans in one area do not know what is going on in another area are gone. The influence of cable-TV on this sport cannot be minimized. Years ago, an AWA fan would hear the name Magnum Scott Hall and not think anything of it. Today, many AWA fans get to see Magnum T.A. every week on SuperStation WTBS and know that the wrestler in their area has ridiculously copied the idea.

Dusty Rhodes, Magnum T.A.'s close friend and frequent tag team partner, can empathize with the emotions Magnum is doubtlessly concealing. Dusty was flagrantly ripped off by a wrestler competing in the Mid-Southern area who goes under the name *Dirty Rhodes*. This guy even goes as far as to bill himself from Austin, Texas, and weighing 302 pounds, the same as Dusty. Based on general principles, I argued with my fellow editors to keep his name out of our magazine. And for a while we did. But then Dirty began working his way up the Mid-Southern ratings and into title contention, and we could no longer ignore his existence. If he were to win the Mid-Southern title, we couldn't after all not report the news.

Dusty understood our position, but that didn't make him feel any better about this ripoff artist. "People should show a little respect for other people's property," he said, "and nothing is more sacred to Dusty Rhodes than his name and reputation. This man suffers from a lack of respect for me and, worse, for himself."

Out of respect for Magnum T.A., in this magazine Scott Hall's nickname will remain "Big." □

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RINGSIDE

(Continued from page 8)

show, was cancelled because, according to **David Bender**, Vice President of research at USA Network, "**Vince McMahon** wasn't able to give it his creative attention as much as he had in the past."

The most recent Nielsen ratings available for **Wrestling TNT** gave the program a 1.7 average household rating for four prime-time runs in July. It was the lowest-rated of all of the wrestling programs seen on prime-time on USA. Still, USA Network claims it was satisfied with the numbers. "Our average program rated 1.4 for July," said Bender, "so that's pretty good." The show was hosted by McMahon until **Gene Okerlund** took over in August. Many people



The WWF's talk show, *Wrestling TNT*, has been cancelled, and speculation is that Gene Okerlund, the host, was set up as the fall guy.

speculated that Okerlund was being set up as a fall guy for McMahon.

Speaking of the WWF, World champion **Hulk Hogan** continues to increase his schedule of title defenses. After defending the belt 12 times over a 16 day period in late August, Hogan put the title on the line another 12 times in October. Eleven of those were against arch-rival **Paul Orndorff**, who has been having his problems with Hogan.

And speaking of the WWF's ratings, the most recent edition of **Saturday Night's Main Event**, aired over NBC on October 4, drew a rating of 9.5 and a 26 share, which has got to be considered excellent. The program featured a bout between Hogan and Orndorff, a **Jake Roberts-Rick Steamboat** "snake pit match," and a **British Bulldogs** title defense against **Greg Valentine** and **Bruce Beefcake**.

UWF President **Cowboy Bill Watts** has been named the 1986 **Pro Wrestling Illustrated** "Man of the Year," as voted upon by the editorial board. "We recognize Bill Watts for outstanding service to the sport of wrestling," says Editor-in-Chief **Peter King**. "Under his guidance, the UWF has grown into one of the top wrestling federations in the entire

wrestler, perhaps best known for his cameo appearance in the motion picture **Pee Wee's Big Adventure**, will appear mostly in battle royal matches. "I think I can really do well," said Silo Sam (a nickname given to him at an early age). "It's gonna be awfully tough to throw a guy as big as me out of the ring."

Big Bubba (not to be confused with **Jim Cornette's** bodyguard of the same name) is the new Mid-Southern International champion. He defeated **Pat Tanaka** in the final round of a tournament in Memphis, Tennessee ... **Steve Armstrong** and **The Bullet** have won the Southeast Continental tag team belts. They defeated **Robert Fuller** and **Jimmy Golden** in Birmingham, Alabama ... **Buddy Roberts**, one-third of **The Fabulous Freebirds**, defeated **Terry Taylor** in Oklahoma City for the UWF television title. Taylor's reign ended after four months.

Kerry Von Erich is back—sort of. Kerry was badly injured in a motorcycle accident in May and has not wrestled since then. However, he is scheduled to be in the corner for **Kevin Von Erich's** match against WCCW champion Black Bart at the Cotton Bowl October 12. Speaking of World Class, newcomer **Spike Johnson**, a 6'5" 280-pound rulebreaker, has already involved himself in a feud with **Mike Von Erich**.

Rip Oliver regained the Pacific Northwest heavyweight title from **Cocoa Samoa** on September 20 in Seattle. "I said I was gonna do it, and I did it," said a proud Oliver ... **The Fabulous Ones** are irate over the NWA's new U.S. tag team championship, mostly because it's held by **Ivan Koloff** and **Krusher Khrushchev**. "They have some damn nerve," said **Steve Keirn**. "First of all, we're the U.S. tag team champions in Florida, and second of all, I don't like no Russians running around with any U.S. belts." See the January 1987 issue of **Sports Review Wrestling** for more details.

That's all for now. See you at the matches. □



Bill Watts, president of the UWF, has been named the 1986 *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Man of the Year for guiding his organization to the top of the wrestling world.

world." Watts, who made headlines when he stepped into the ring to enforce UWF guidelines, said that he "is honored by this award but feels that everybody in the UWF deserves a part of it."

Silo Sam, formerly known as **Big John Harris**, is ready to make his AWA debut. The 7'8", 450-pound

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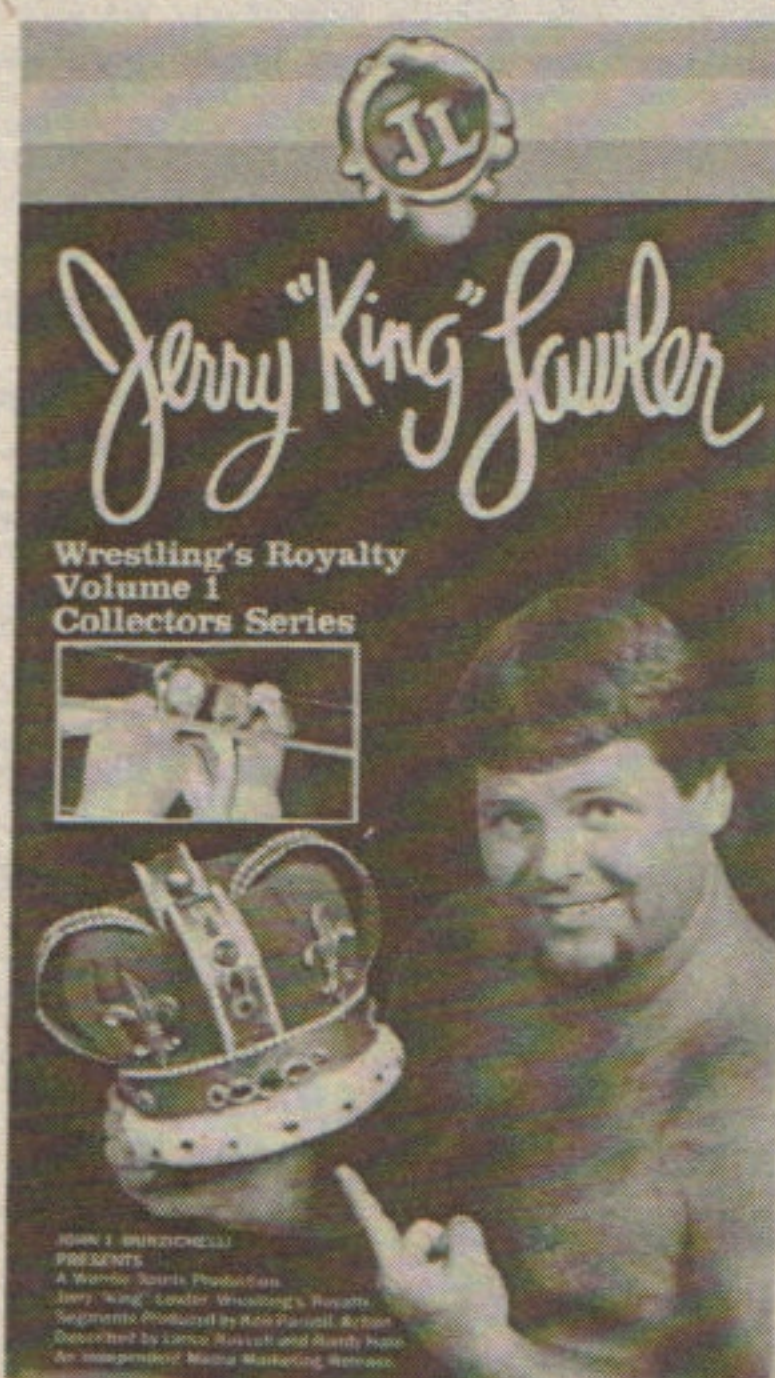
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UWF TOURNAMENT

(Continued from page 34)

\$50,000 and Gilbert quickly becomes an even more determined competitor.

Steve Williams. The former Oklahoma University football star has feuded with virtually every rulebreaker and fan favorite in the UWF. "I just can't wait to get my hands on some of these guys," says Williams, "but I also welcome the opportunity to wrestle some of my friends and show the people what this sport is all about." Williams against any of The Freebirds would be a classic.

Michael Hayes. The acknowledged leader of The Freebirds hasn't had much to cheer about recently, but is characteristically optimistic about the tournament. "The winner? Stupid question, jerks. Obviously, it'll be either me, Buddy, or Bam Bam," says Hayes. "This, brother, is the PWI/UWF/Badstreet tournament!"

Others: Sting, Gilbert's protege, is powerfully built and dangerous in the ring... **Ted DiBiase** is one of the most determined men in the UWF... **Buddy Roberts** has a chance to escape from the shadow of his more well-known Freebird mates... **One Man Gang**, the biggest man in the UWF at 468 pounds, is nearly impossible to pin... **Jack Victory** is an underdog but always has something up his sleeve... **Rick Steiner** is one of the strongest men in the UWF... **Missing Link**, backed by Dark Journey, has been very impressive recently.

Add to the list **Savannah Jack**, **Bad Leroy Brown**, and **Chavo Guerrero**, and you have one of the finest rosters of wrestlers in the world. Or, as Peter King said, "The wrestlers competing in the tournament make us proud to give it the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* stamp. We're really looking forward to this, and I'm sure our readers are, too." ☐

PRESS CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 31)

might dig into the pasta every once in a while, but you best believe that I work it off.

APTER: But how about your mind these days, Magnum? I've known you for quite a while and, I must say, you seem to be a little preoccupied.

T.A.: That's what everybody's been saying, Bill, and it's just not true. I'm as mentally sharp as I've ever been. Now, I'll be the first to admit that I was a little down after losing the title, but that's because I set very high standards for myself. It's the only way to get anywhere in this world. I was very disappointed after losing the title and so were my fans. Also, it was the way I lost the title.

ROSENBAUM: What do you mean?

T.A.: Well, I believe that actions speak louder than words, so just let me say that Nikita had a little bit too much outside help.

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ROSENBAUM: You mean from his uncle and Khrushchev.

T.A.: Exactly.

KING: But it seems to me that after losing in that style, and battling very gallantly against Nikita, who happens to be a very fine wrestler, you'd want to bounce back with a vengeance the next night and regain the belt. This didn't happen, and I have to wonder why?

T.A.: I'm not sure you understand the amount of energy I put into this series. I've never worked so hard for anything in my life. I wanted to win the series, just to prove to Nikita and Geigel, and even you, Apter, that Magnum T.A. was never gonna put up with any crap. The series drained me, and losing made it even worse. But I've bounced back now and I'm ready to run Koloff back to Moscow.

APTER: How do you intend to do this? Nikita Koloff is a very imposing wrestler and many people think he might be the best in the world. During the entire U.S. championship series, he showed amazing strength and ability to get out of difficult situations. This man is no Tully Blanchard. He's a lot tougher.

T.A.: He's a man and he has certain weaknesses that I was able to uncover during the course of the series. I don't think I have to remind anybody that I was down 3-0 and came back to tie it up. For three weeks I held the upper hand on Koloff. It's pretty safe to say that the series wasn't exactly conclusive.

ROSENBAUM: That's true, but three months later he still has the title, and, to be quite frank, you seem to have lost some of your edge ...

T.A.: Now wait a minute!

ROSENBAUM: ... and mental drive and desire to wrestle. You sit here telling us that you haven't changed, which is all fine, but the facts say otherwise. Past performances said that Magnum T.A., the one we all know, should have bounced back immediately and posed a serious

threat to Nikita. But your challenge has been rather meager so far!

T.A.: Look, I don't have to listen to this crap, especially in my own home where I ...

ROSENBAUM: Now this sounds like the Magnum T.A. I know.

T.A.: And I don't have to put up with accusations. I'm my own man and I can account for myself. I don't need some no-good paper pusher analyzing my career. Nikita Koloff is dead meat and there's no way that I'm gonna allow some Red to walk around with my U.S. belt. This war isn't over yet, and you'd better believe it.

APTER: Do you have any time schedule?

T.A.: Today, tomorrow, the day after, next week, who knows? One thing's for certain. It'll be mine. I will not let down my fans and my country.

KING: I think one of the interesting sidelights to this whole situation is the Dusty Rhodes-Baby Doll-Ric Flair development. You're a very close friend of Dusty's, so I'm sure you must have an opinion about the whole matter.

T.A.: Baby Doll is the lowest creature I've ever known. I'd rather not say too much about that situation, but as you know I've always been a little leery of her. She kind of got me over to her side when she ran into the ring to save Dusty against Cornette and The Midnighters, but the more I think about that, the more I realize that she did it for her own glory. She didn't care about Dusty, but she knew the crowd would go wild and that's all she wanted. I've run into a few women like Baby Doll, and let me tell you, they're all parasites. If she lasts with Flair for another month, I'd be surprised.

APTER: Did you see it coming?

T.A.: No.

ROSENBAUM: How was your relationship with her?

T.A.: Pretty good, I thought.

APTER: You're not too happy about the way things turned out.

T.A.: I'm pissed. ☐



This special feature is for all fans who want to know who won and who lost . . . and how. *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* will print eyewitness reports from correspondents who attend the matches. If you'd like to have your correspondent report printed in the world's largest-selling wrestling magazine, send it to: **Arena Report; PWI, Box 48; Rockville Centre, NY 11571.**

ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER (Anaheim, CA): The Machines & Capt. Lou Albano defeated King Kong Bundy, John Studd, & Bobby Heenan . . . Randy Savage defeated George Steele . . . Tito Santana beat Nikolai Volkoff . . . Brett Hart pinned Dan Spivey . . . Jim Neidhart drew with Mike Rotundo . . . Billy Jack Haynes & Bob Orton battled to a double countout . . . Iron Mike Sharpe pinned Jack Armstrong.

—Michael Rocovitz

BALTIMORE CIVIC CENTER (Baltimore): Ric Flair defeated Dusty Rhodes by disqualification . . . Ole & Arn Anderson beat The Rock 'n' Roll Express by disqualification . . . Tully Blanchard defeated Ronnie Garvin in two out of three falls . . . Baron Von Raschke pinned Todd Champion . . . The Warlord beat Thunderfoot I & II in a handicap match . . . Jim Garvin pinned Sam Houston . . . Misty Blue pinned Linda Dallas . . . Denny Brown successfully defended his NWA junior heavyweight championship against George Smith.

—Andy Redmond

BOUTWELL AUDITORIUM (Birmingham, AL): Roddy Piper defeated Paul Orndorff by disqualification . . . Rick Steamboat pinned Jake Roberts . . . The British Bulldogs beat Hercules Hernandez & Jimmy Jack Funk . . . Koko B. Ware defeated Kamala by disqualification . . . Dick Slater pinned The Iron Sheik . . . Lanny Poffo pinned Jose Luis Rivera . . . Cousin Luke pinned Steve Lombardi . . . Mr. X pinned Mike Jackson.

—Mike Blankenship

BUFFALO MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM (Buffalo, NY): Roddy Piper beat The Iron Sheik . . . Paul Orndorff pinned Rick Steamboat . . . The British Bulldogs defeated Jimmy Jack Funk & Hercules Hernandez . . . Jake Roberts beat Cousin Luke . . . Lanny Poffo pinned Jose Luis Rivera . . . Koko B. Ware beat Mr. X . . . Dick Slater pinned Steve Lombardi . . . Kamala beat Tony Garea.

—Scott Emerling

CHILHOWEE PARK (Knoxville, TN): Ron Sexton & Johnny Meadows battled Doug Vines & The Animal to a double disqualification . . . Cpl. Tim F. O'Reilly beat Izzy Slapowitz by disqualification . . . Bill Starsky defeated The Bounty Hunter . . . The Samoan pinned Wade Trail . . . Deke Rivers pinned Kenny Hall . . . Jackie Laken beat The Assassin.

—Gretan Burley

COLISEUM RODEO ARENA (Hope, AR): Terry Taylor defeated Buddy Roberts . . . Hacksaw Jim Duggan beat One Man Gang by disqualification . . . The Missing Link & Dark Journey beat John Tatum & Missy Hyatt in a mixed tag team match . . . Brett Wayne Sawyer and Gustavo Mendoza wrestled to a draw . . . Gary Young defeated Ken Massey.

—Tracy L. Powell

FAIRGROUNDS COLISEUM (Jackson, MS): Terry Taylor won a \$50,000 two-ring battle royal . . . Steve Williams & Ted DiBiase defeated Terry Gordy & Michael Hayes . . . Terry Taylor defeated One Man Gang . . . John Tatum beat The Missing Link . . . Savannah Jack defeated Jeff Gaylord . . . Joe Savoldi beat Jack Victory.

—Marty Boyd

FESTIVAL HALL (Melbourne, Australia): Junkyard Dog defeated Brutus Beefcake . . . Hillbilly Jim beat Greg Valentine by disqualification . . . S.D. Jones & Paul Roma defeated The Moondogs . . . Samoan Sika beat Jim Powers . . . The Tonga Kid defeated Tiger Chung Lee . . . Gama Singh defeated Bob Bradley . . . Sal Bellomo beat A.J. Petrucci.

—Pamela Irving

THE FORUM (Los Angeles): Ric Flair defeated Dusty Rhodes by disqualification . . . The Rock 'n' Roll Express defeated The Midnight Express . . . Nikita Koloff & Magnum T.A. wrestled to a double countout . . . The Road Warriors defeated Ivan Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev in a Russian double chain match . . . Wahoo McDaniel defeated Tully Blanchard . . . Arn Anderson and Dick Murdoch wrestled to a time-limit draw . . . Hector Guerrero defeated Konga the Barbarian . . . Jimmy Valiant pinned Shaska Whatley in a New York street fight.

—James Cox

THE FORUM (Montreal): Jacques & Raymond Rougeau defeated Brutus Beefcake & Greg Valentine . . . The British Bulldogs wrestled The Killer Bees to a no-contest decision . . . Roddy Piper defeated The Iron Sheik . . . Rick Steamboat beat Jake Roberts . . . Adrian Adonis defeated Cousin Luke . . . King Tonga beat Hercules Hernandez . . . Kamala beat Siva Afi . . . Dick Slater defeated Steve Lombardi . . . Koko B. Ware beat Rene Goulet . . . Armand Rougeau defeated Frankie Lane.

—Bertrand Hebert

REPORT

GAINESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL (Gainesville, FL): The Fabulous Ones beat The Shock Troops in a steel cage match ... Kendall Windham destroyed The Ninja ... Barry Windham beat Ron Bass in a bullrope match ... Mark Starr defeated Terry Grey ... Sean Royal defeated The Cuban Assassin.

—Zachary House

HERSHEY ARENA (Hershey, PA): The Machines defeated Big John Studd & King Kong Bundy ... Randy Savage beat George Steele by disqualification ... The Killer Bees drew with Nikolai Volkoff & The Iron Sheik ... Bob Orton beat Tito Santana ... The Rougeaus beat Jimmy Jack Funk & Rene Goulet ... Sika beat Tony Garea ... Dick Slater defeated Terry Gibbs ... Cpl. Kirchner beat Iron Mike Sharpe.

—Matt Amberman

KNOXVILLE COLISEUM (Knoxville, TN): The Bullet & Exotic Adrian Street beat Jimmy Golden & Robert Fuller ... Brad Armstrong pinned Jerry Stubbs ... Debbie Combs pinned Miss Linda ... Wendell Cooley defeated Kevin Sullivan by disqualification ... Roy Lee Welch pinned Tim Horner ... Tony Anthony wrestled Tom Pritchard to a draw.

—Gary Hipps

LANSING CIVIC CENTER (Lansing, MI): The Rock 'n' Roll Express beat The Midnight Express in a best-of-three falls match ... Dick Murdoch beat Ivan Koloff ... Konga the Barbarian defeated Don Kernodle ... Shaska Whatley and Hector Guerrero battled to a time-limit draw ... The Kansas Jayhawks defeated Baron Von Raschke & Krusher Khrushchev ... Arn Anderson defeated Jimmy Valiant.

—Barbie Yates

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN (New York): Super Machine, Big Machine, & Hulk Machine beat King Kong Bundy, John Studd, & Bobby Heenan ... Bob Orton pinned Billy Jack Haynes ... Harley Race defeated Tito Santana ... Ted Arcidi defeated Tony Garea ... Steve Regal pinned Jose Luis Rivera ... S.D. Jones pinned Mr. X ... Nick Kiniski defeated Steve Lombardi ... Samoan Sika pinned Lanny Poffo ... The Islanders beat The Moondogs.

—Joe Buarawitz

THE MET CENTER (Bloomington, MN): Ric Flair defeated Dusty Rhodes by disqualification ... The Road Warriors & Paul Ellering defeated Ivan & Nikita Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev ... The Rock 'n' Roll Express defeated The Midnight Express ... Tully Blanchard defeated Magnum T.A. by disqualification ... Wahoo McDaniel beat Ole Anderson by disqualification ... Dick Murdoch pinned Shaska Whatley ... Arn Anderson pinned Jimmy Valiant ... Baron Von Raschke defeated

Jim Garvin by disqualification ... Ron Garvin pinned J.J. Dillon.

—David Oulman

ROYCE MANDIGO ARENA (Rutland, VT): Sgt. Slaughter defeated Sheik Al Shaad ... Chief Jules Strongbow beat Larry Winters ... Tiger Jackson pinned Puncho Boy ... D.C. Drake defeated Eddie Miranda ... Wendi Richter beat Peggy Lee Rude ... Rocky Jones pinned The Masked Executioner.

—K. Spaulding

SEATTLE CENTER ARENA (Seattle): The Road Warriors defeated Rip Oliver & Bruiser Brody ... Sgt. Slaughter beat Sheik Abughdadien ... Nick Bockwinkel & Curt Hennig battled to a double countout ... Ricky Santana beat Mike Miller ... Coco Samoa defeated Verne Seibert ... Brady Boone beat Joey Jackson ... Scott Doring and Vinnie Valentino wrestled to a draw.

—Gary Brewer

WAR MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM (Ft. Lauderdale, FL): Barry Windham pinned Ron Bass to capture a \$25,000 20-man, two-ring battle royal ... Lex Lugar defeated Kareem Muhammad ... Barry Windham beat Kendo Nagasaki ... Tyree Pride & Stan Lane defeated The Cuban Assassin & Butch Miller ... Kendo Nagasaki defeated Cowboy Ron Bass by disqualification in a Canadian lumberjack match ... Kendall Windham defeated Chris Champion by countout ... Sean Royal beat The Ninja ... The Falcon beat The Italian Hitman ... Mark Starr beat Johnny B. Good.

—Mathew Bahl

WELLAND ARENA (Welland, Ontario): Jacques & Raymond Rougeau defeated Brett Hart & Jim Neidhart ... The Iron Sheik pinned Siva Afi ... Cpl. Kirchner beat Nikolai Volkoff ... Ted Arcidi defeated Iron Mike Sharpe ... Candi Perdue pinned Judy Martin ... Tony Parisi beat Steve Lombardi ... Rene Goulet defeated Bob Marcus.

—Derek Moscato

RECAP: NWA World champion Ric Flair has been winning most of his matches against Dusty Rhodes by disqualification ... The Machines continue to dominate John Studd & King Kong Bundy ... Kendo Nagasaki wrestled three times on one card (two single matches and a battle royal) in Ft. Lauderdale's War Memorial ... Female wrestlers Misty Blue and Linda Dallas appeared on an NWA card in Baltimore ... The Missing Link & Dark Journey are getting the best of John Tatum & Missy Hyatt ... The Rock 'n' Roll Express have been awesome since regaining the NWA World tag team title. □

WRESTLING ENQUIRER

ROBERT GIBSON SUFFERS BROKEN RIBS

Rock 'n' Roller Injured In Match vs. Ole Anderson

By **EDDIE ELLNER**

CHARLOTTE, NC—Current NWA World tag team champions The Rock 'n' Roll Express have been halted. Robert Gibson, one half of the team along with Rick Morton, suffered three cracked ribs in a tag team match against Ole and Arn Anderson at the Charlotte Coliseum and will be out for an indefinite period of time.

The injury occurred when Arn whipped Gibson into the ropes and took an Ole knee in the ribs. Gibson immediately went down and needed the help of several people to return to his dressing room. "He really took quite a blow," said Morton, as he watched the replay. "This was a brutal



Robert Gibson lies helpless on the arena floor, unable to stand up due to the pain from three cracked ribs. The injury, sustained at the hands of Ole and Am Anderson, could keep Gibson out of action for several months.

action by the Andersons and you'd better believe that we'll get revenge. If Robert can't do it, I'll do it for him."

Gibson was immediately transported by ambulance to Charlotte Memorial Hospital where he underwent treatment. It is not known how long he will be out, although he might not return to action for several months.

A complication was added to this incident when it was discovered that Ole and Arn Anderson had recently signed a new contract for their matches with the champions. The contract stipulated that if The Rock 'n' Rolls were unable to defend the belts, the title would go to the Andersons.

But Jim Crockett of Jim Crockett Promotions immediately met with NWA President Bob Giegel and other officials, who ruled that Morton would be able to choose another partner to defend the belts until Gibson returned.

Several wrestlers, including Dusty Rhodes, Brad Armstrong, Tim Horner, Ronnie Garvin, and Dick Murdoch have offered their services to the rock 'n' roller. No word yet on Morton's choice of a partner.

Andre The Giant In England



Andre the Giant is currently in England filming a movie. That's why you haven't seen The Giant Machine in the WWF lately.

By CHARLES FENSON

Enquirer Foreign Correspondent

LONDON, ENGLAND—After a thorough investigation, *Wrestling Enquirer* has established that Andre the Giant is in this city filming a motion picture.

This startling discovery has numerous implications. It virtually verifies that The Giant Machine, who has also been absent from the WWF, is indeed Andre the Giant. It also has started rumors that Andre, who was suspended by the WWF for missing a television taping, has decided to honor the suspension. Andre was startled when confronted by *Enquirer* staffers and refused to comment.

The 7'4" superstar is expected to be on location for three months and does not plan to wrestle during this time. "This is a very exciting time for Andre," said a source close to the Giant. "He'd like to do a good job and maybe land a few more movie deals. He's a hero all over the world and this will only add to his status."

Bobby Heenan, who has insisted all along that The Giant Machine is Andre the Giant, could not be reached for comment.

World Class, WWF Join Forces

By BILL APTER

DALLAS, TX—World Class Championship Wrestling has struck a deal with the World Wrestling Federation which will allow various WWF stars to appear on World Class cards.

Although no further details were announced, Rick Steamboat, the popular WWF mat artist, is scheduled to appear on World Class' October 12 show at the Cotton Bowl. Steamboat is expected to appear on various future cards, although it is not known whether he will be allowed to try for the World Class title.

"This is a significant deal for us," says WCCW official George Scott,

formerly of the WWF. "It adds a new twist to our cards and gives us more leeway in scheduling matches. The WWF presents some of the finest wrestling in the world and I think that this deal will only strengthen both federations."

The World Class roster was weakened recently when Chris Adams, a former champion, left for the UWF and Rick Rude, another ex-champion, went to the NWA. This unusual agreement figures to give World Class wrestling a welcome boost at a time when it is sorely in need of new wrestling stars.

Hennig Declares War On Gagne



Curt Hennig hit his tag team partner, Greg Gagne, following a recent match in St. Paul. This could be the first shot in a long and brutal war.

By STU SAKS

ST. PAUL, MN—AWA fans at the St. Paul Civic Center witnessed a shocking event recently when Curt Hennig turned on Greg Gagne. This happened after Hennig and Gagne lost a six-man tag team match to Sheik Adnan Al-Kassie, Ali Kahn, and Boris Zukhov.

Crusher Blackwell was scheduled to wrestle with Gagne and Hennig but did

not appear, so the main event turned into a five-man tag team bout. Things got out of hand when Gagne started arguing with the referee and Al-Kassie, Kahn, and Zukhov triple-teamed Hennig. Zukhov pinned Hennig, and Gagne came over to talk to his partner. Then Hennig threatened to hit the ref while Gagne tried to hold him off. But Hennig turned around, slugged Gagne, and angrily walked out of the ring.

Hennig refused to comment on the incident, but Gagne was surprisingly understanding. "There's been a lot of pressure on Curt recently," said Gagne. "He and Scott [Hall] are very upset over not being able to regain the tag team belts and I can understand this."

But AWA officials claim that Hennig is still mad at Gagne and that this feud might quickly recall a war from the '60s and '70s, when Verne Gagne was World champion and battled with Larry Hennig, Curt's father.

AROUND THE GLOBE

TOKYO, JAPAN

Tiger Mask and Riki Choshu are the two top contenders for the NWA World championship on Ric Flair's current tour of Japan. Choshu, who has wrestled Flair previously, is the current Pacific Wrestling Federation champion. This will be Tiger Mask's first shot at Flair's belt and he promises to make it a winning shot. "I have planned strategy to defeat Flair," says Tiger Mask.

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Former AWA World champion Rick Martel has announced that he, Tom Zenk, and Dino Bravo have decided to sign contracts with the WWF. Zenk and Martel have agreed to work as a tag team and plan to go after the British Bulldogs' WWF World title. Bravo, who will be managed by Johnny Valiant, added that WWF World champion Hulk Hogan is "a very high priority."

MEMPHIS, TN

The team of Sato and Goto has gone on a rampage. They broke Paul Diamond's leg and then, after getting reprimanded by Mid-Southern promoter Eddie Marlin, injured Marlin's leg. Tojo Yamamoto, manager of Sato and Goto, says that Jerry Lawler's limbs are their next target. "Soon nobody in Mid-Southern legion has any regs left," said Yamamoto. "We will injure them and put in hospital."